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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

ANNUAL REPORT

(28 April 1990 – 17 April 1991)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1991

SUPPLEMENT No. 15

UNITED NATIONS

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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Annual Report covering the period from 27 April 1990 to 17 April 1991

INTRODUCTION

1. The present Annual Report was adopted unanimously by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) at the eighth meeting of its forty-sixth session on 17 April 1991.

CHAPTER I

ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

2. No draft decisions were recommended by the Commission for action by the Council.

CHAPTER II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE ITS FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

3. A list of meetings held since the forty-fifth session is contained in Annex II, showing in each case the dates, the officers and the symbols of the report. These reports reflect the discussions held and record the agreements reached and decisions taken. The reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies contain also the programmes of work adopted by these bodies.

B. Other activities

4. Pursuant to the resolutions and decisions of the Commission, the Executive Secretary submitted to the forty-sixth session a number of progress reports on projects carried out under the direct authority of the Commission itself. (See Annex III)

5. The secretariat serviced the regular session of the Commission, meetings of its subsidiary bodies, and other meetings held under its auspices. Periodic reviews, including the annual Economic Survey of Europe, the Economic Bulletin for Europe, a series of specialized statistical bulletins, and monthly statistical indicators of short-term economic changes in ECE countries, were published. The secretariat maintained close and regular liaison with United Nations Headquarters and cooperated with the Departments concerned, as well as with the secretariats of the other regional commissions on projects of common interest.

C. Relations with other United Nations Programmes

6. The cooperation of the Commission and its secretariat in 1990/1991 with United Nations specialized agencies and other international organizations, as well as with their secretariats is described in document E/ECE/1229.

CHAPTER III

FORTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

7. The forty-sixth session of the Commission was held from 9 to 17 April 1991. The Commission heard statements by the Chairman and by the Executive Secretary and a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

8. The forty-sixth session was attended by representatives from Albania; Austria; Belgium; Bulgaria; Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic; Canada; Cyprus; Czech and Slovak Federal Republic; Denmark; Finland; France; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Iceland; Ireland; Italy; Liechtenstein; Luxembourg; Malta; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic; Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States of America; and Yugoslavia.

9. The session was attended by representatives of the European Economic Community (EEC).

10. Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the Commission's terms of reference.

11. Egypt, Israel and Morocco were represented under article 11 of the Commission's terms of reference.

12. Representatives of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the following specialized agencies and intergovern- mental organizations were in attendance: International Labour Organisation (ILO); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); World Bank; United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT); and European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

13. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: International Chamber of Commerce (ICC); International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU); World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU); World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA); International Bar Association (IBA); International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL); International Electro-technical Commission (IEC); International Real Estate Federation (FIABCI).

14. A complete list of participants can be found in document E/ECE(46)/L.3.

15. The Commission decided to pass to the Sessional Committee, in addition to agenda item 2(b) - Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission - the following agenda items, for preliminary consideration:

4(a) The work of the Commission concerning economies in transition in eastern and central Europe

4(b) Climate change

4(c) Statistical activities

4(d) ECE's contribution to the implementation of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, including earthquake prediction

4(e) The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

4(f) Cooperation in the field of environmental protection and water resources and in the field of long-range transboundary air pollution

4(g) Cooperation in the field of transport

4(i) Standardization and related activities

4(j) Engineering industries and automation

4(k) The activities of the Economic Commission for Europe

4(l) EDIFACT

7. Programme of work for 1991-1995

16. The Sessional Committee met from 9 to 12 April 1991. The account of the consideration by the Sessional Committee of item 2(b) can be found in paragraphs 76 to 197 below. The account of the discussion on those items which had been assigned to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration, referred to above, are contained in paragraphs 213 to 246 below. For the recommendations of the Sessional Committee to the Plenary and the action taken by the Commission on these recommendations, see paragraphs 247 to 252 below.

B. Agenda

17. The Commission adopted its agenda (E/ECE/1227 and Add.1) which read as follows:

1. Adoption of the Agenda

2. Work of the Commission as a whole since the forty-fifth session, including:

(a) The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities since the forty-fifth session (Commission resolution 2 (XXV) and decisions A (45) and O (45)) E/ECE/1228

(b) Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission 1/

(c) Cooperation and coordination of activities with other other international organizations E/ECE/1229

(d) Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly E/ECE/1230

(e) Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries E/ECE/1231

3. Review of the economic situation in Europe

4. Follow-up action on relevant Commission decisions:

(a) The work of the Commission concerning economies in transition in eastern and central Europe (decision D (45)) E/ECE/1232

(b) Climate change (decision E (45)) E/ECE/1233

(c) Statistical activities (decision F (45)) E/ECE/1234

(d) ECE's contribution to the implementation of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, including earthquake prediction (decision G (45)) E/ECE/1235

1/ Documentation for this sub-item:

Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	ECE/EC.AD/36
Committee on Agriculture	ECE/AGRI/112
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/54
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems	ECE/ENVWA/18
Committee on Human Settlements	ECE/HBP/80
Committee on the Development of Trade	ECE/TRADE/173
Committee on Energy	ECE/ENERGY/15
Working Party on Coal	ECE/COAL/121
Working Party on Electric Power	ENERGY/WP.2/1
Working Party on Gas	ENERGY/WP.3/1
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH/39
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/85 and Add.1
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/36
Working Party on the Chemical Industry	ECE/CHEM/77
Working Party on Steel	ECE/STEEL/72

Editorial note:

The status and titles of some of these bodies were changed, either by virtue of decision O (45) adopted at the resumed forty-fifth session of the Commission on 14 December 1990, or in the course of the forty-sixth session. For the sake of consistency, the new titles of these bodies are used throughout this report, even though in certain cases the report is that of the body under its previous status or title.

	(e) The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (decision H (45))	E/ECE/1236
	(f) Cooperation in the field of environmental protection and water resources and in the field of long-range transboundary air pollution (decision I (45))	E/ECE/1237
	(g) Cooperation in the field of transport (decision K (45))	E/ECE/1238
	(h) Economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (decision L (45))	E/ECE/1239
	(i) Standardization and related activities (decision M (45))	E/ECE/1240
	(j) Engineering industries and automation (decision N (45))	E/ECE/1241
	(k) The activities of the Economic Commission for Europe (decision O (45))	E/ECE/1242
	(l) EDIFACT (decision J (45)	
5.	Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe	E/ECE/1243
6.	The future work and activities of the Commission and proposals in regard to all-European cooperation, particularly in priority sectors, priority tasks, general priorities and guiding principles (decisions A (45), D (45), O (45) and P (45))	E/ECE/1244
7.	Programme of work for 1991-1995	E/ECE/1245
8.	Other business	
9.	Election of Officers	
10.	Annual Report of the Commission	

C. Election of Officers

18. The Chairman of the forty-sixth session of the Commission was Mr. Olli Adolf Mennander (Finland), and the Vice-Chairman was Mr. Andrei A. Ozadovski (Ukrainian SSR).

19. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee was Mr. Alexander Sytchev (Byelorussian SSR), and the Vice-Chairman was Ms. Jutta Wolke (Germany).

20. At its closing meeting the Commission unanimously elected Mr. Andrei A. Ozadovski (Ukrainian SSR), Chairman and Mr. William Rossier (Switzerland), Vice-Chairman, respectively, of the forty-seventh session of the Commission.

21. On the understanding that the Commission would follow established practices and set up a Sessional Committee at its forty-seventh session, it unanimously elected Ms. Jutta Wolke (Germany), Chairman and Mr Vladimir Atanassov (Bulgaria), Vice-Chairman, respectively, of the Sessional Committee for the forty-seventh session.

D. Account of proceedings

Work of the Commission as a whole

The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities since the forty-fifth session

(agenda item 2(a))

Documentation: E/ECE/1228, 1232, 1243 and 1244

22. The Commission considered this item in conjunction with the following items:

Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe
(agenda item 5)
and
The future work and activities of the Commission and proposals in regard to all-European cooperation, particularly in priority sectors, priority tasks, general priorities and guiding principles
(agenda item 6)
and
The work of the Commission concerning economies in transition in eastern and central Europe
(agenda item 4(a)) 2/

23. All delegations participating in the debate underscored the importance of the profound and historic changes which had taken place in the ECE region since the Commission's forty-fifth session. The countries of eastern and central Europe had continued on the road towards parliamentary democracy and a market economy. These events had furthered the process of all-European cooperation and posed continued challenges to the ECE and its member countries. In the view of many delegations 1990 had been a milestone marked by the unification of Germany which had signalled the end of the cold war and the division of Europe. Equally significant for many delegations was the holding of the CSCE Summit Meeting in Paris at which the participants had agreed to develop their relations in a new spirit of common principles and interests. This endeavour laid the foundations of an essentially new all-European system of security and cooperation.

24. It was generally recognized that the widespread euphoria that had followed events in 1989 had given way to a more realistic assessment of the realities and of the difficulties faced by the countries of central and eastern Europe, in order to secure an effective and lasting transition to an open market economy. Many delegations pointed out that the past year had highlighted the magnitude of the grave economic problems confronting the countries in transition which had been accentuated by external shocks such as the Gulf crisis, sharp decrease of the CMEA trade, the effects of German unification, and recession in industrial economies. Despite these problems the transformation process towards the establishment of market economies had advanced further.

2/ For the discussion on these items see paragraphs 45 to 49 below (item 5), 50 to 63 (item 6) and 209 to 212 (item 4(a)).

25. It was considered by many delegations that the process towards the new Europe would take more time to complete than had been expected. A few mentioned that developments in the former German Democratic Republic provided an insight into the dimensions of the problems confronting reforming countries. It was noted by one delegation that, while in the short term the negative effects of the economic reform and structural adjustment would predominate, the positive effects of the process would, in the long term, prevail. A number of delegations remarked that strengthened democracy required economic stability, progress and international support.

26. Many delegations stressed that international financial and technical assistance for the economies in transition in central and eastern Europe and the USSR was needed more than ever in order to ensure that the reforms succeeded. In this context, mention was made of the initiatives of the Group of 24 and other assistance to the reforming countries currently under way in various international organizations and institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the GATT and the ECE. The delegation of Turkey said that, with its extensive experience in launching reforms for structural change towards a more liberal economy, its country had much to offer to the economies in transition and referred to the recent organization of a "Symposium" and a "Business Week" on its national experience in developing a free market economy and its relevance to the countries in transition.

27. The delegation of Belgium 3/, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, and the representative of the European Community both outlined the Community's activities designed to overcome the serious adjustment problems resulting from the transition process. Particular mention was made of the conclusion of negotiations of trade agreements with the majority of the reforming countries and of the negotiation of trade and association agreements with Poland, Hungary and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. These agreements would be closely linked to the progressive and effective implementation of the reform process under way in these emerging democracies. Reference was also made to assistance given through the PHARE programme and the role played by the Commission of the European Communities in coordinating assistance by western countries within the framework of the Group of 24. With respect to assistance to the Soviet Union, these representatives informed the meeting of the allocation of food aid to the Soviet Union and the launching of a $400 million technical assistance programme, concentrating on priority areas. Expressing concern for the situation in the Baltic countries, these representatives expressed the hope that a solution could be found in conformity with the CSCE Charter of Paris for a New Europe. Delegations of some countries reported on their technical and financial assistance to the economies in transition. Two delegations referred to the possibility of reviving the concept of the Marshall Plan for assistance to the transition countries. One delegation recalled a passage from the message of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, namely "the economic and political situation in the ECE region and the policies pursued by its member States continued to be of direct concern to the developing countries". It also referred to the contribution its country had made to the resolution of the Gulf crisis and its concern for the plight of the Kurdish population in Iraq.

28. The delegations of central and east European countries provided information on the economic, political and social developments in their respective countries and prospects for the future. They also discussed policy problems pertaining to their transition to market oriented economies. They emphasized that many transition problems were the consequence of the disintegration of existing structures and interdependences among the CMEA member countries. A deep recession, an

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3/ Whenever the delegation of Belgium is reported as speaking during the forty-sixth session, it should be noted that it spoke on behalf of the European Community and its member States.

inevitable by-product of stabilization programmes, had set in, resulting in a falling wages and increasing levels of unemployment. In assessing economic developments, most of these delegations noted weakening economic performance in 1990, rising indebtedness, fall in output and domestic and external imbalances which had worsened in the past year. The process of restructuring east European economies would call for new forms of cooperation between east and west as well as within the framework of the ECE, including advisory services and in particular the proposed international expertise of programmes and investment projects for transition to market economy. They further described new legislative, economic reform and restructuring measures which they had taken to further the process of transition to a market economy.

29. Some delegations reported on the first free elections held in their countries in 45 years and expressed their commitment to continue firmly on the path leading to full integration into the European and the global economy. With this goal in mind, they expressed their desire to participate as fully as possible in such institutions as the Council of Europe, the European Parliament, the European Community, EFTA, OECD, the Western European Union as well as the ECE. These countries expressed their deep gratitude for the financial and technical assistance that was being extended to them by other Governments and international institutions. They stated their intention to cooperate actively with countries on both subregional and multilateral levels in fields of common interest.

30. Two delegations focused on significant dilemmas facing the reforming countries. The delegation of Canada recalled that gradual reforms in the face of massive imbalances and deep structural problems had been proven ineffective. It advocated comprehensive approaches and the sequencing of reforms which repeatedly demonstrated advantages of economic sustainability and political credibility. In this respect it singled out those countries of eastern Europe which had adopted this approach and had thereby accelerated their economic liberalization programmes. In particular, the Canadian delegation called attention to the study of the USSR economy done by the IMF, the IBRD, the OECD and the EBRD; called on the USSR authorities to adopt the approach recommended in the study; and said it agreed that progress in this regard should be a criteria for external support to the Soviet Union. It stated that progress by the transition countries in improving their own trade regimes must be matched by trade policy and structural adjustment measures in other ECE member countries to reduce trade barriers. To this end, the importance of the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations was stressed as well as the urgency for transition countries to adhere as fully as possible to GATT disciplines.

31. Another delegation observed that the unique national environment must be the starting point in the formulation of viable policies and cautioned Governments not to follow slavishly the example of other countries. It indicated a number of elements which were needed to ensure the up-grading of a nation's competitive advantages, and urged transition Governments to reassess their policies carefully.

32. Many delegations commented on the European integration process. The delegation of Belgium described the significant progress achieved towards the final phase of the formation of a Single Market of the European Community for 1992. Negotiations were underway on the creation of an economic, monetary, and political union. Links with EFTA countries had been strengthened and negotiations on the creation of a European Economic Area would soon be concluded and contribute significantly to the establishment of a new European structure. It drew attention to the importance it attached to cooperation with Mediterranean countries and the joint declarations recently concluded between the Community and the United States and Canada respectively. It emphasized measures to improve its instruments of cooperation to increase its finances and to strengthen regional cooperation. It announced its intention to contribute to the resolution of the political problems and promote economic stability in the Mediterranean and the Middle East as part of the Gulf reconstruction effort.

33. Several delegations pointed to certain projects and activities at the inter- and sub-regional levels, namely cooperation in the area of the Balkans, of the Black Sea, of the Danube, of the Adriatic and of the Mediterranean, as well as the Pentagonale initiative. They expressed the conviction that these developments could enhance the all-European process of integration.

34. Delegations expressed their satisfaction with the outcome of the Commission's resumed forty-fifth session and the adoption of decisions O and P (45). It was considered that the resumed session had given the ECE a new orientation which clearly reflected the changing interests and priorities of its member countries in the context of the new economic and political realities in the region. They strongly supported the decisions on the streamlining of the structure and on improving the methods of work of the Commission and appreciated the significant achievement in identifying five priority areas of activity, namely environment, transport, statistics, trade facilitation and economic analysis. Delegations also welcomed the designation of assistance to countries in transition to market economies and their integration into Europe and the global economy as major aspects of the ECE's work and the confirmation of sustainable development as a guiding principle. If applied properly, these two decisions would assist the ECE in making more effective use of its assets.

35. Many delegations stressed that decision O (45) should be implemented fully and expeditiously. The delegation of Belgium stated that the decision represented the most effective way of ensuring that the ECE play its part in the transition process. It emphasized that transition issues must be treated in the context of the priorities defined in decision O (45). Several delegations voiced their disappointment that more sweeping reform had not been possible, especially in the non-priority areas. Many delegations expressed their satisfaction that the Commission's subsidiary bodies had begun to respond promptly and constructively to the new guidelines including the initiation of activities to assist countries in transition in areas such as energy, agriculture and industry. It was underlined by these delegations that the application of decision O (45) should be uniformly applied to all the subsidiary bodies. Other delegations pointed out the necessity of applying the same approach towards assistance to countries in transition as a general priority and sustainable development as a guiding principle.

36. The economic consequences of the Gulf war were the subject of consideration in the context of actual and future development in the region. It was pointed out that the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in his message to the Commission, had particularly underlined the need for assistance to be rendered to countries having most serious losses arising from the application of sanctions based on Security Council resolution 661. The Executive Secretary pointed to a sharp fall in business and consumer confidence, intensifying the downturn of growth in the region as a consequence of the Gulf war. Several delegations expressed concern over the fact that the outbreak of hostilities in the Gulf and the consistent application of sanctions on the basis of resolution 661 induced an additional slowdown of growth in the region, particularly in some member countries which were in transition to a market economy as well as in those countries which were developing from an economic point of view. The seriously affected countries underlined the urgent need for action by Governments and relevant international organizations. They requested the Commission further to study these effects on the process of restructuring of their economies and asked the Executive Secretary to respond to the relevant request of the Secretary-General on the programme engagement of the Commission in the spirit of Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations and in conformity with Security Council resolution 669.

37. The strengthened role of the Commission in the field of the environment was welcomed by many delegations. Particular mention was made of the elaboration of legal instruments on environmental issues. The adoption of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, at Espoo (Finland) was warmly welcomed. While indicating its intention to associate itself with international legal instruments elaborated by the ECE, notably in the field of environment, one delegation expressed its concern over the erosion of and the damage inflicted on

some ECE principles and traditions, such as the tradition of "consensus", by the experts who elaborate these instruments.

38. The role of the ECE in assisting countries of central and eastern Europe to strengthen environmental management was noted by a number of delegations. One delegation commended the intersectoral and inter-organizational approach adopted by the Commission aimed at strengthening the integration of environmental concerns in other sectors and the promotion of sustainable development. In this context, the results of the Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics as well as the Ministerial Declaration and Joint Agenda for Action adopted at the Bergen Conference to follow up the report of the WCED were commended.

39. Delegations underlined the importance of transport questions in the context of the economic and social changes occurring in the region. They recorded the importance they attached to work in priority areas such as the elaboration of transport conventions, harmonization of standards and regulations on the construction of vehicles, the transport of dangerous goods, road traffic safety and customs requirements and the development of coherent transport infrastructures. Mention was made of the Road Safety Week held in October 1990 in many member countries, the UNDP-assisted Trans-European Motorway and Railway Projects (TEM, TER), combined transport, short-sea crossings and coastal shipping. Noting with satisfaction the finalization of the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines (AGTC) one delegation welcomed the possible inclusion of provisions relating to coastal shipping and short sea crossings into this Agreement at an appropriate time.

40. The progress achieved in the field of trade facilitation, particularly the United Nations Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT) was noted with satisfaction. The representative of the European Community supported by many delegations found the studies in the field of trade a valuable contribution to the business community and looked forward to the forthcoming publication on foreign direct investment and to the proposed workshop on management of joint ventures. Several delegations reaffirmed the fundamental importance of the Commission's work on trade promotion and facilitation and industrial cooperation and emphasized the role of the Committee on the Development of Trade in this respect. It was stressed that particular focus should be given to problems of economies in transition and their influence on future prospects of regional and sub-regional trade and economic cooperation.

41. A number of delegations reaffirmed their support for the important work in the field of statistics and economic analysis, in particular in helping the countries in transition to master the ongoing processes. One delegation underlined the need for strong statistical support for the Commission's priority areas.

42. Several delegations voiced their support for the Commission's activities in the field of energy. Particular mention was made of sustainable energy supplies for environmentally sound economic development, energy and the environment, energy efficiency, and energy savings technologies. The activities of the Working Parties on Electric Power and Gas were commended, notably the elaboration of technical interconnection of electric power networks and gas and oil pipeline systems. The launching of the Energy Efficiency 2000 project was welcomed by a number of delegations. It was also underlined that the ECE should not stand aloof from the initiative under development on the establishment of a European energy community.

43. A number of delegations expressed their support for ECE's work in the fields of standardization, agriculture, timber, the steel and chemical industries as well as engineering industries and automation. Other delegations put questions on the relevance of the activities of these Working Parties which could in many cases be taken over by other Working Parties.

44. At its eighth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision A (46) on the work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities (for the text see Chapter IV).

Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe

(agenda item 5)

Documentation: E/ECE/1243

45. Many delegations underlined the fundamental role of the CSCE process in generating and promoting intensified cooperation in Europe and among ECE member States. They viewed this process as the appropriate framework for establishing security and cooperation in a larger Europe based upon democracy, human rights, social justice and economic prosperity. They considered that the creation of new institutional arrangements would reinforce the efficiency of the on-going process.

46. Delegations welcomed the fact that the CSCE process had gained remarkable momentum during the past year which reflected the new situation in the region. In this context a number of delegations recalled that the Bonn Conference on Economic Cooperation had laid the groundwork for a new concept of cooperation in the region. Many delegations stressed the importance of the Charter of Paris for a New Europe signed by the 34 participating States and the European Community at the CSCE Paris Summit in November 1990. The Charter signalled the end of confrontation and the beginning of a new era of all-European cooperation. One delegation highlighted the need for the establishment of new structures and interstate cooperation to tackle economic problems within the CSCE process.

47. It was noted with approval that the Charter of Paris called upon the ECE and several other international institutions to contribute to the implementation of its consensus decisions and to enhance mutual cooperation and coordination.

48. A number of delegations regarded the outcome of the CSCE Meeting on the Mediterranean held in Palma de Majorca in September-October 1990 as an important first step towards the development of multilateral cooperation in the Mediterranean with the eight non-participating states as well as adjacent regions. One delegation drew attention to the provisions of the Charter of Paris dealing with the strengthening of cooperation in the Mediterranean area.

49. There was general recognition that the ECE had an important role in fostering regional multilateral cooperation and in contributing to the implementation of the Helsinki Final Act and subsequent CSCE documents. The ECE had demonstrated that among others it could respond to the present and future challenges of Europe. An expression of this confidence was the fact that the Bonn Concluding Document had encouraged the ECE among other international economic organizations to promote European economic cooperation. Delegations considered that the Commission should continue its active role in the multilateral implementation of the CSCE documents, and develop cooperation and coordination with the European Community and with international organizations within the CSCE framework with a view to avoiding undue overlap and duplication of work. They noted that with the adoption of decisions O and P (45), the ECE was adapting its structure and working methods to the new spirit of CSCE cooperation embodied in the Paris and Bonn CSCE conferences.

The future work and activities of the Commission and proposals in regard to all-European cooperation, particularly in priority sectors, priority tasks, general priorities and guiding principles

(agenda item 6)

Documentation: E/ECE/1244

50. There was general agreement that the Commission's forty-sixth session provided an excellent

opportunity to discuss the future implementation of decisions O (45) and P (45) and orientation of activities in the five priority areas of activity, namely environment, transport, statistics, trade facilitation, and economic analysis as well as to consider activities designed to assist countries in transition to a market economy and issues relating to sustainable development.

51. It was emphasized that these decisions should be implemented as fully and expeditiously as possible. Many delegations underlined the need to ensure that the necessary resources were provided to the five priority sectors for the accomplishment of vital work. In addition to the priority areas of activity, there was general agreement that work should focus on support of the ECE countries in transition by means of workshops and other informal meetings.

52. Many delegations emphasized the importance of continuing the restructuring process within the ECE at all levels. To this end, the continuing process of consultation and ad hoc informal meetings in accordance with decision P (45) was stressed. One delegation called for a more detailed outline of specific issues to be pursued within the five priority areas of activity. It recalled that the ECE's comparative advantage lay in its ability to negotiate international conventions and other binding instruments between its member states. Other delegations were of the opinion that there were enough decisions and guidelines on restructuring the Commission and that now it was necessary to concentrate efforts on their implementation.

53. Many delegations felt that work in the areas not identified as priorities should concentrate on issues of relevance to the priority areas of activity in accordance with decision O (45). Other delegations indicated their interest in seeing the work continued and strengthened in non-priority areas such as energy, science and technology and industry which they considered of importance.

54. A number of delegations again drew attention to the need for proper coordination among international institutions active in multilateral assistance and in coordinating bilateral assistance to the transition countries. They were convinced that the ECE must increasingly concentrate its resources on priority areas where it could make a unique and significant contribution and readjust or abandon activities which were not compatible with a market-oriented approach to economic development.

55. With respect to future work in the area of assistance to countries in transition, several delegations proposed that the ECE direct its efforts to the analysis of the fundamental problems encountered in these countries and elaborate recommendations on how to overcome them. Other delegations pointed out that this work should be done respecting the provisions of decisions O and P (45).

56. A number of delegations were of the opinion that the ECE should consolidate and expand its commitment to environmental management and development, building further on the main principles and recommendations of the Report of the World Commission, and on the Ministerial Declaration and Joint Agenda for Action adopted at the Bergen Conference. The importance of active follow-up to and implemention of all the relevant recommendations of the Bergen Conference was advocated by one delegation.

57. In the transport section, one delegation was of the view that the ECE should concentrate its efforts on the development of legal, administrative and technical work leading to the elaboration of transport Conventions such as the AGR-AGTC and RID. In the area of the transport of dangerous goods it considered that it was indispensable to provide the secretariat with sufficient material and human resources. Another delegation stressed that work should be confined to the technical harmonization, general infrastructure planning and the study of transport economics in order to avoid overlapping with other organizations and felt that more emphasis should be accorded to traffic safety and environmental considerations related to traffic. A third delegation saw

promise in projects related to the establishment of a unified transportation network in Europe, expanding cargo flows, and the unification of shipment rules and traffic safety regulations.

58. In the area of trade facilitation many delegations stressed that sufficient resources should be allocated to the continuing development of UN/EDIFACT. Due to the far-reaching effects of the UN/EDIFACT project, one delegation believed that the broader participation by developing countries in its elaboration was warranted to guarantee that the specific requirements of those countries be reflected in the final version of the project. One delegation felt that, as system-related or political obstacles disappeared more attention should be given to the reduction of technical obstacles to trade. Other delegations called for the promotion of new forms of industrial cooperation and the development of joint ventures. They suggested that the ECE examine the role of the international environment in the development of the transition countries' trade and that it monitor the progress of their integration into the world economy. One delegation proposed that in the future, ECE organize workshops to facilitate economic contacts between its Mediterranean members and other countries in the region.

59. Several delegations voiced their support for future activities in the energy sector. It was felt that, independent of any structural changes, energy questions would have a central role to play in the further development of Europe both economically and environmentally. The interrelationship between energy, environment and economic development was one of the main global challenges of the day and was also highly relevant in the regional ECE context. Future work was suggested in forecasting this interrelationship in stable energy supply, energy efficiency and sustainable energy development.

60. With respect to scientific and technological cooperation a few delegations indicated their interest in future projects to assist scientific and technological development in the countries in transition.

61. Several delegations thought that the ECE could be instrumental in providing assistance to those countries which had been negatively affected by the Gulf crisis.

62. All delegations expressed their conviction that the ECE would continue to adapt to the changing economic and political environment and indicated their willingness to continue to assist the Commission in this endeavour, recognizing that difficult decisions and tasks lay ahead. The future of the ECE would depend upon the seriousness and the speed with which it implemented its new priorities.

63. At its eighth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision B (46) on cooperation in the field of economic analysis and assistance to countries in transition (for the text see Chapter IV).

Cooperation and coordination with other international organizations
(agenda item 2(c))

Documentation: E/ECE/1229

64. Delegations noted with appreciation the ECE's strengthened cooperation with the European Community and with international organizations. In view of the changes taking place within the region and the interdependent and global nature of issues facing the international community, many delegations stressed that the Commission should collaborate, coordinate and consult more closely with international institutions in accordance with the provisions of the Bonn Conference and the Charter of Paris for a New Europe. This was particularly relevant for activities in the Commission's five priority areas of environment, transport, trade facilitation, statistics and economic analysis. Consequently, ECE's contacts would need to be intensified with the European

Community, the OECD, IMF, IBRD, GATT and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, as well as with UNDP and UNEP.

65. The delegation of Norway considered that the envisaged cooperation between the OECD and the ECE on environmental policy performance reviews was a welcome step forward and a significant follow-up to the recommendations of both the Bergen Conference and the CSCE Charter of Paris. It further underlined the importance of involving non-governmental organizations in the work of the regional commissions and suggested that a modification of the ECE rules of procedure may be needed in order to accommodate this objective.

66. Reference was made to the importance of the continuing cooperation between the ECE and the UNDP on operational projects, in particular the work accomplished on the Trans-European Motorway and the Trans-European Railway Projects executed by ECE.

67. The invitation to ECE to participate in some relevant Working Groups of the Group of 24 on topics of assistance to countries in transition was mentioned by the representative of the European Community.

Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly

(agenda item 2(d))

Documentation: E/ECE/1230

68. The delegation of the Principality of Liechtenstein expressed its pleasure in participating in the Commission session for the first time as a full member of the United Nations and a new member of the ECE, pursuant to Assembly resolution 45/1. In welcoming the representative of Liechtenstein, several delegations expressed their conviction that it would contribute to enhancing the work of the Organization.

69. Underlining the importance of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in Brazil in 1992, some delegations recorded their satisfaction that the Report of the Bergen Conference had been presented to the UNCED Preparatory Committee as the ECE regional contribution to the 1992 Conference, as called for in Assembly resolution 45/211.

70. Expressing their conviction that the Commission should strengthen its activities in the field of energy efficiency, a number of delegations felt that the ECE could be instrumental in implementing paragraph 8 of Assembly resolution 45/208 on the Report of the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy.

71. Recalling Council decision 1988/169 on Transport Centres for the Mediterranean Region which provided that United Nations status be conferred on the transport study and training centres for the Mediterranean region, to take effect upon the conclusion of agreements between the United Nations and the respective Governments, one delegation regretted the delay in the implementation of this decision. It urged the Exeucitve Secretary to take all necessary measures to conclude the matter.

72. Two delegations extended their gratitude to all Governments, institutions and individuals who had provided assistance in accordance with the provisions of Assembly resolution 45/190 and of Council decision 1990/50 on international cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. The role played by the Executive Secretary in assisting the Secretary-General in the preparation of his reports to ECOSOC and the General Assembly on this subject was highly praised. Emphasizing the need for continued support and

assistance, it was noted with appreciation that proposals for action had already been put forward within the ECE for future assistance to the affected countries as called for in Assembly resolution 45/190.

73. At its eighth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision C (46) on international cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant (for the text see Chapter IV).

Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries
(agenda item 2(e))

Documentation: E/ECE/1231

74. A number of delegations emphasized that the developments in east-west relations could have positive effects on the developing countries. One delegation pointed out that the north/south dimension of the Commission's activities should not be overlooked, so as to avoid the distorted economic development of Europe. Delegations were of the view that a considerable part of the Commission's activities were of relevance to developing countries, both within and outside the region, namely its work in the fields of environment, trade facilitation, transport, statistics, standardization, agriculture, human settlements, tourism and trade and industrial cooperation. The operational and technical aspects of the ECE's work were mentioned in this connection.

75. Several delegations emphasized the need to develop harmonious programmes of assistance for all countries of the European region including those developing from the economic point of view. This would contribute to the establishment of a common "European economic space". A pan-European approach was needed to create an appropriate investment policy to meet the competitive demand of the market economy in the developing countries of the region.

Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission
(agenda item 2(b))

Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments

Documentation: ECE/EC.AD/36 and E/ECE/1242

76. This item was discussed together with item 4(a) - The work of the Commission concerning economies in transition in eastern and central Europe.

77. All delegations participating in the discussion expressed their high appreciation of the work of the Senior Economic Advisers. At a time when fundamental changes were taking place in transition economies and a new era of economic cooperation was opening up, these activities were considered to be an essential part in the fulfilment of the mandate of the ECE. Referring to the work accomplished by the Senior Economic Advisers pursuant to decision D (45) concerning the work of the Commission on economies in transition, delegations underlined the importance of workshops and stressed the usefulness of the results achieved by the twenty-sixth session of the Senior Economic Advisers in providing methods of work, themes and a provisional list of topics which might be addressed by workshops.

78. Delegations also agreed that the programme of work adopted by the Senior Economic Advisers provided a good basis for a strengthening of international economic cooperation within the region and stressed their increasing role in the future work of the Commission on economies in transition in eastern and central Europe. Several delegations underlined the importance of the programme element on sustainable economic development and supported the continuation of the

activity of the Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics. They also considered that the positive experience accumulated in this field should be further developed.

79. There was praise for the high quality and the relevance of the work done by the secretariat for the Economic Survey of Europe in 1990-1991. However, some delegations regretted that the publication had not been issued in time to be properly studied and reflected upon prior to the session. The delegation of the USSR suggested that in future issues of the Survey more attention be devoted to short-term prospects of economies in transition, on the analysis of common trends and problems and on issues relating to economic integration. Some delegations expressed the need for the Senior Economic Advisers to give more consideration to the Survey in their regular work.

80. Delegations emphasized the need for close cooperation with other international organizations dealing with transition issues. Cooperation was regarded as particularly important in the field of statistics and economic projections. Some delegations underlined the need for the secretariat to be provided with the resources required for its analytical work, particularly for strengthening computing and statistical support.

81. When reviewing future activities delegations welcomed the workshops that would be organized in Austria and Hungary later in 1991. The delegation of Romania announced the intention of its country to organize in Bucharest, in September 1991, a Symposium on ways, means and stages of transition towards a market economy, which could be followed by two or three workshops devoted to such issues as the role of the state in the reform process, the dismantling of state monopolies on foreign trade, privatization and price liberalization. The delegation of Poland announced that preliminary steps had been undertaken to organize, in cooperation with France, a Seminar on the role and methods of planning in the transition period concentrating on the role of government in the transition period, industrial and regional policies. The delegation of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic announced that it would present a proposal for a project concerning transboundary cooperation between market economies and economies in transition.

82. The Commission endorsed the report of the Senior Economic Advisers, including its programme of work.

Committee on Agriculture

Documentation: ECE/AGRI/112

83. Delegations of countries with economies in transition underlined the important problems which their agricultural sectors had had to face, referring in particular to the process of privatization. The proposed workshop on legal and economic aspects of the privatization of farms and agricultural enterprises met with particular interest. The wish was expressed for further assistance by the ECE, in cooperation with FAO, to the countries in transition including the vocational training of farmers and managers and the promotion of investments to speed up modernization of agro-industrial enterprises.

84. Strong support was voiced for the work of the Committee with regard to general economic analysis of agricultural markets, trade, prices and national agricultural accounts, also for standardization of perishable produce and work on the relationships between agriculture and the environment. The opinion was expressed that projects which had a bearing on the environment should be carried out in coordination with other Principal Subsidiary Bodies and with other international organizations active in this field. Activities currently in hand on mechanization of agriculture should be carried through to completion. The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR mentioned its proposal at the last session of the Committee on elaboration of the project concerning the influence of radiation contamination on agriculture and expressed its hope that further concrete steps in this direction would be made by the Committee.

85. Several delegations also referred to their interest in work on food and agricultural statistics in Europe. The importance of a thorough coordination of the Committee's activities with FAO was stressed.

86. One delegation noted that the Committee's categorization of programme elements as high, medium and low priorities did not conform to decision O (45) and that O (45) therefore required the Sessional Committee to rank-order the programme elements. The delegation suggested, however, that in view of the Committee's determined efforts to bring its work programme into conformity with the principles of decision O (45), it be given one year's grace and instructed to rank-order its programme elements at its 1992 session. There being no objection to this proposal, the Sessional Committee agreed to recommend it to the Commission.

87. The Commission endorsed the Committee's report and programme of work, including the recommendations for changes in its terms of reference and structures, to change its title to "Committee on Agriculture", and for exemptions regarding the periodicity of sessions of the Working Party on the Standardization of Perishable Produce and the methods of work of its Meetings of Experts.

Timber Committee

Documentation: ECE/TIM/54

88. Delegations expressed their appreciation of the Committee's activities, including those of its subsidiary bodies. Several delegations noted that the Committee's activities were in accordance with the priorities identified by the Commission. One delegation noted the Committee's growing role as the only all-European body for the development of the forest and forest industry sector.

89. Many delegations welcomed the programme set up by the Committee to assist countries in transition. Among the topics identified by the Committee, the delegation of Bulgaria attached priority to institution building, the role of government agencies and privatization, while the delegation of the Byelorussian SSR indicated that it attached priority to questions of privatization, modernization of industry, management training, costing and pricing of forest products and marketing. The delegation of Romania considered the most effective methods of work for its country were expert missions and training of experts, and proposed that these methods be adopted.

90. A number of delegations attached high priority to the work on the appraisal of long-term timber trends and prospects. In this connection the delegation of Romania proposed a meeting in Bucharest in early 1992 to analyse the specific conditions in that country.

91. The USSR confirmed its offer to host a seminar on the use of multi-function machinery and equipment in logging operations in 1992. The delegation of Romania offered to host a symposium on forest roads and transport of wood raw material in 1993, with a related study tour.

92. The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR welcomed the decision to include a programme element on problems in the forestry and forest industry sector arising from radiation contamination, and expressed its willingness to cooperate in this area.

93. The delegation of the United States of America expressed its appreciation of the practical, useful, non-policy nature of the Committee's work, particularly in the field of short and long-term market analysis. It hoped the programme would be kept streamlined and practical.

94. Thanks were expressed to the Governments of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Germany, Hungary, Poland and the United Kingdom for providing host facilities during 1990/91.

95. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee and its programme of work, confident that the Committee's forty-ninth session in October 1991 would take the necessary decisions to apply decision O (45), adapting structures and programmes as necessary.

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems

Documentation: ECE/ENVWA/18

96. Delegations expressed appreciation of the work accomplished and the results achieved in the field of environment and water during the past year. It was pointed out that the Senior Advisers were playing an increasingly dynamic role in this area of high priority particularly with respect to the elaboration of regional legal instruments for environmental protection.

97. Delegations welcomed the adoption of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and its signature by 26 countries and the European Community in Espoo. The delegations of the USSR and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic stated that their Governments expected to sign the Convention shortly.

98. Delegations welcomed the Espoo Ministerial Statement which emphasized in particular the reinforcement of the work of the Senior Advisers aiming at strengthening regional cooperation and coordination of activities regarding environmental protection.

99. Delegations expressed their gratitude to the Government of Finland for the excellent arrangements made for the fourth session of the Senior Advisers.

100. Strong support was expressed for the intensive ongoing work in implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, carried out under the auspices of the Executive Body for the Convention. Many delegations stressed the importance they attached to the completion of the VOC Protocol for adoption and signature at the next meeting of the Executive Body. They also stressed the need for an agreement on further reductions of SO_2 and NO_x emissions.

101. Many delegations urged the Senior Advisers to finalize both the draft Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes as well as the draft Convention on the Transboundary Impacts of Industrial Accidents, for adoption at their fifth session.

102. Several delegations noted with satisfaction the completion of the European Red List of Globally Threatened Animals and Plants.

103. Many delegations stressed the need for full support to be given to countries with economies in transition. This support would provide them with relevant information and experience for the development and integration of environmental legislation and infrastructure at the earliest possible stage in the process of economic reform. The regional environmental conventions were applauded as a useful mechanism in this respect.

104. Several delegations stressed the importance of improving coordination of environment-related activities of various ECE bodies in particular within the fields of energy, transport and industry. In order to carry out that task, the delegation of Belgium suggested that the Senior Advisers be involved in environmental initiatives by other Principal Subsidiary Bodies. Specific cross-sectoral activities were mentioned: the Energy Efficiency 2000 project; the high-level Meeting on Cooperation and Sustainable Development in the Chemical Industry; and the Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics. One delegation noted that for the first two

activities listed above, proper coordination did not appear to have taken place. The Norwegian delegation suggested that the next step should be to launch cooperation between the Senior Advisers and the Inland Transport Committee.

105. The delegation of Belgium further suggested that the Senior Advisers could play an advisory or consultancy role in the transfer of technology in close cooperation with the European Community. Other delegations considered also the regional environmental conventions as a useful mechanism for such a transfer. The delegation of Sweden informed the meeting that an ad hoc working group with Sweden as lead country would finalize a policy report on integrated waste management which would serve as the basis for developing a regional strategy in this field.

106. Several delegations welcomed recent steps taken by the ECE to strengthen cooperation with OECD on issues related to the environment, in particular with respect to the management of chemicals, environment and economic and environmental policy performance reviews.

107. The delegation of Norway welcomed the proposal in Espoo for consideration of a document on environmental rights and obligations for possible submission to the 1992 preparatory process and for consideration by the Senior Advisers at their meeting in 1992. It also expressed the opinion that the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the work of the regional commissions should be actively supported.

108. The delegation of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic informed the meeting about the preparations for the Conference of European Environment Ministers to be held in Dobris (near Prague) in June 1991. The delegation of Belgium expressed the hope that far-reaching conclusions and concrete proposals would result from that Conference, particularly regarding policy performance reviews, compliance with existing commitments and the elaboration of guidelines for industry.

109. The delegation of Hungary referred to a meeting of the eight Danube countries, convened in Budapest in February 1991, which began the process of preparing a transboundary water agreement for the Danube Basin as a follow-up to, and in line with, the ECE Convention under negotiation.

110. The delegations of the Byelorussian and Ukrainian SSR expressed their concern about the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station for the ecological situation within their own territories and territories of other European countries and suggested that inter-sectoral solutions be elaborated.

111. Several delegations noted their concern that the Environment Division receive sufficient resources to carry out their activities in this priority area of the Commission's work. Several delegations requested the Executive Secretary to ensure that adequate resources are made available to the Environment Division in accordance with decision O (45). At the request of some delegations, the secretariat provided an assessment of the secretariat resources required in the short and medium term for the implementation of the conventions; the coordination of sectoral environmental activities within ECE; and the preparation of environmental policy performance reviews.

112. The Commission endorsed the report of the Senior Advisers including the programme of work.

113. At its eighth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision D (46) on the European Red List of Globally Threatened Animals and Plants (for the text see Chapter IV).

Committee on Human Settlements

Documentation: ECE/HBP/80

114. Delegations participating in the discussion gave a positive appraisal of the Committee's efforts in the reorientation of activities towards assistance to countries in transition from centrally-planned to market economies and the promotion of sustainable development of human settlements. It was mentioned that workshops had enabled a faster and more flexible response to urgent problems of countries in transition, in particular those on housing and rent policy (Romania, December 1990) and on housing financing and subsidies (Czechoslovakia, April 1991). Other topics mentioned as being of interest to countries in transition were: the scope and extent of state involvement in the housing market; the role of the state in urban planning in conjunction with the new role of local economy and increased power of local authorities; the financing of renewal and modernization activities in market economies. The Bulgarian delegation suggested that the Committee could review the structure, roles and tasks of state organizations dealing with human settlements policies in market economies and distribute such information among member countries.

115. The delegation of the Ukrainian SSR reported on of the results of a study tour to some cities of the Ukraine, in September 1990. The delegation of Romania confirmed its willingness to organize a study tour in September 1991 to permit a better understanding of the human settlements situation in its country during the transition period.

116. Several delegations stressed the close relationship between human settlements policies and the concept of sustainable development, noting particularly environmental considerations. It was proposed that the Committee's activities on the sustainable development of human settlements be coordinated in an all-European context taking into account provisions in the Concluding Document of the Bonn Conference on Economic Cooperation in Europe on urban planning, city ecology and transportation.

117. Delegations expressed their continued interest in the projects related to housing and land policy, sustainable tourism development, and energy conservation in buildings.

118. The Commission endorsed the programme of work and the report of the Committee, including the recommendation to change its title to "Committee on Human Settlements", and was confident that it would adapt at its next session its programme of work to the provisions of O (45), and identify priorities accordingly.

Committee on the Development of Trade

Documentation: ECE/TRADE/173

119. Many delegations expressed satisfaction with the activities of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies and welcomed the identification of new priorities and the streamlined programme of work adopted by the Committee at its thirty-ninth session. Some delegations stressed the need for additional international assistance to central and east European countries and urged the Committee to play an active role in promoting such assistance. The ongoing negotiations between several of these countries and EC and EFTA were seen as an important contribution to an increase in trade and economic cooperation in the ECE region. Appreciation was also expressed for the offer by the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber to host a workshop on "Management of Joint Ventures" in Vienna in May 1991.

120. The majority of delegations emphasized the importance of promoting foreign direct investment. A number of delegations from countries in transition mentioned new or revised legislation

aimed at attracting foreign investors. The delegation of the USSR noted that the secretariat study of conditions for promoting direct foreign investment had already proved useful to legislators. Other delegations agreed and that of Romania requested an enlargement of this study.

121. There was also considerable support voiced to review further the legal issues of privatization. The Romanian delegation specifically requested the finalization of the Committee's work on legal aspects of privatization before the next meeting.

122. The delegation of Romania suggested that the Committee should, among other topics, study ways of evaluating the assets of state enterprises to be privatized, of restructuring state enterprises on market principles, of encouraging small and medium-sized enterprises to participate in international trade and of integrating the economies in transition further into the European Economic Area. The Committee should also pay further attention to the trade problems of member countries which were developing from the economic point of view.

123. The Chairman of the Committee drew attention to the fact that, as the issue of privatization was a major concern for all countries in transition, it would be timely to finalize the Guide on the Legal Aspects of Restructuring Ownership Forms in Industry in 1991. The Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry had begun consideration of this Guide in December 1990 and a first reading would take place at its next meeting on 24-26 June 1991. It was unlikely to finalize the text on that occasion. The Commission might therefore wish exceptionally to authorize the Working Party to meet again in November 1991 for two and a half days.

124. The delegation of Canada agreed to the Chairman's proposal to convene a second meeting of the Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry on condition that the resources needed for the Meeting would be taken preferably from the overall allocation of meeting time allocated to trade work, or alternatively from savings identified in other sectors of the Commission's work. Assurances in this regards were provided by the secretariat.

125. The delegation of Norway pointed to the relationship between trade and the environment which had recently become an important international issue and repeated the recommendation it had already put forward in the Committee that this matter should be reflected in relevant areas of the Committee's programme of work.

126. The Commission endorsed the report of the Committee, including the programme of work, and the proposal to convene a second meeting of the Working Party on Contract Practices in Industry in November 1991.

Committee on Energy

Documentation: ECE/ENERGY/15

127. Some delegations stressed the growing importance of energy as a result of the transition from central planning to market economies, events in the Middle East and problems of environmental pollution.

128. There was general agreement among delegations on the most important issues within the energy field. Energy efficiency and security emerged as major concerns together with sustainable energy development and, in the longer term, new and renewable sources of energy.

129. Several delegations voiced their support for the Energy Efficiency 2000 project. The delegation of the Netherlands confirmed its contribution to the project trust fund and an "in kind" contribution to the project. It expressed the view that other ECE member States which had not already confirmed their contributions to the trust fund may now do so taking into account

contributions which had been made; it mentioned that support by the secretariat was needed to make the campaign successful.

130. The delegations of Yugoslavia, the USSR, Sweden, Romania and Bulgaria expressed their support for the project and their intention to contribute to its implementation. The delegation of Romania suggested that work methods should be developed to minimize the use of convertible currencies in the project. In its view, the Steering Committee should meet in a different city for each session and include a study tour or technical visit, a common practice in other operational projects of the ECE. The delegation of Sweden supported the project which it considered to be well in line with work on sustainable energy development and transition problems. The Government of Sweden had already communicated its contribution to the trust fund and "in kind" support for the project.

131. Interest was expressed in the Seminar on Solar Power Systems to be held by the USSR and the Ukrainian SSR in Alushta from 22 to 26 April 1991 and the Symposium on Energy Efficiency Measures in Industry to be held in Ljubljana (Yugoslavia) from 30 September to 4 October 1991.

132. In general, delegations welcomed the role of the future Committee on Energy and its capacity to analyse energy matters comprehensively rather than by individual fuels alone. It would help in the co-ordination of work on energy matters within ECE. It would also help to coordinate the activities of ECE, pursuant to its mandate, with competent international organizations. In this regard, note was taken of the participation of ECE in the Group of 24 (G24) Working Group on Energy and the Environment.

133. Addressing the energy activities of the Commission in their entirety, the delegation of Belgium stated that while the energy sector had not been recognized as a priority, it nevertheless constituted an important area requiring particular attention. It was in this spirit that the Commission had attached great importance to the examination of the energy problems affecting the countries of central and eastern Europe, and had developed the project Energy Efficiency 2000. At the same time, the beneficial impact of sustainable energy and economic policies on the environment has been recognized. In this respect, the application of new and renewable sources of energy was considered of major importance. The Community was looking forward to the full implementation of decision O (45) by the Committee on Energy.

134. The Commission endorsed the report of the former Senior Advisers on Energy, including the programme of work.

Working Party on Coal

Documentation: ECE/COAL/121

135. Noting that the eighty-sixth session of the Coal Committee had been the last session prior to its transformation into a Working Party, delegations participating in the discussion underlined that it had been a useful multilateral forum for the exchange of information and cooperation in the field of coal in the region, of particular use to the countries in transition.

136. Delegations participating in the discussion noted that the programme of work for 1991-1995 already displayed an orientation towards the new priorities of the Commission.

137. Delegations considered of particular relevance activities regarding the environmentally sustainable production and utilization of coal; mine safety; the market adaptation of the coal industries in the economies in transition; the exchange of information on organizational structures and practices in international coal trade; the elaboration of classifications, standardization and codification aimed at facilitating trade or enhancing safety; the surveys and

analysis of the coal supply and demand situation in the ECE region and the global prospects for coal and world coal trade.

138. Turning to future activities, several delegations stressed the need for urgent programmes to alleviate the most pressing coal and energy problems in their countries. One delegation suggested a closer link between the work in the field of coal and the Energy Efficiency 2000 project. Interest was expressed in the Workshop on Clean Utilization of Low Calorie Value Solid Fuels (Romania, September 1991), the Symposium on Opencast Coal Mining and the Environment (United Kingdom, October 1992) and the holding of a symposium on clean coal technologies.

139. The delegation of Hungary stated that, following new legislation, the question of direct foreign investment in the coal industries in the economies in transition arose and that the Government of Hungary therefore was proposing to hold a workshop or seminar on this subject in early 1992.

140. The Commission endorsed the report of the former Coal Committee, including the programme of work.

Working Party on Electric Power

Documentation: ENERGY/WP.2/1

141. Delegations participating in the discussion expressed satisfaction with the activities of the Working Party and its subsidiary bodies during the period under review and with its programme of work.

142. Particular appreciation was expressed for the Seminar on the Rational Use of Electricity, held in November 1990 in Iassi (Romania). The Seminar had made an important contribution to energy efficiency and environmental protection. The "Briefing on the Romanian electricity situation" organized by the Romanian Government on the occasion of the Seminar, was commended.

143. Addressing the Working Party's response to decision O (45), the delegation of the USSR expressed the hope that rank ordering of priorities of the programme of work would be accomplished at the next session of the Working Party. The delegation of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic welcomed the activities of the Working Party in the field of the environment.

144. With respect to future activities, delegations commented favourably on international interconnections, environmental issues in electric power, energy efficiency, and transition issues. With regard to the latter, a number of delegations attached importance to the Round Table on Development of Electric Power Systems and Public Acceptance, to be held in Warsaw on 17/18 September 1991, and to the Workshop on Adaptation of Electricity Tariffs in Economies in Transition, to be organized jointly with UNIPEDE in September 1992, as both events would assist reforms in central and eastern Europe.

145. The Commission endorsed the Working Party's report on its first session including its revised structure and the programme of work.

Working Party on Gas

Documentation: ENERGY/WP.3/1

146. Delegations participating in the discussion expressed their satisfaction with the work of the Working Party and its subsidiary bodies and their implementation of decision O (45). They attached special significance to the work carried out on the prospects of further integration and

extension of gas networks in Europe to accommodate diversification of gas supplies in countries of eastern and central Europe, and to issues of economic transition affecting the gas industry.

147. Delegations identified further activities of particular interest, such as natural gas resources and their exploration and development, gas trade, natural gas and the environment, statistics, new technologies in the gas industry, use and distribution, transport and storage of gas.

148. Some delegations declared their special interest in the development and use of gaseous fuels for motor vehicles. The delegation of the Ukrainian SSR noted that its Government would be holding in Kiev in September 1991 a Symposium on the Use of Compressed Natural Gas, Liquefied Natural Gas and Liquefied Petroleum Gas as Motor Vehicle Fuel. It also expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the Symposium on the Use of Computers for Gas Transmission and Distribution Systems, held in Hungary in October 1990.

149. The delegation of Romania attached significance to the work carried out by the Meeting of Experts on Natural Gas Resources, noting further that a Workshop would be organized in its country in October 1991 on the development and application of new technologies in the exploration, production and supply of natural gas in central and east European countries during the period of transition.

150. The Committee endorsed the report of the Working Party and its programme of work.

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology

Documentation: ECE/SC.TECH/39, E/ECE/1235

151. This item was considered in conjunction with item 4(d) - ECE's Contribution to the Implementation of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, including earthquake prediction.

152. The delegation of the USSR referred to the Paris Charter for a New Europe in which it was stated that cooperation in the field of science and technology would play a significant role in socio-economic development. In its view, the Senior Advisers could contribute to the formation of a scientific, technological and information space in Europe which would strengthen scientific and technological cooperation among all the countries of the region. International expertise should be sought.

153. The delegation of Belgium expressed satisfaction with the decisions taken by the Senior Advisers, in particular the fact that the programme of work had been further condensed and adapted to the new needs in Europe.

154. The delegation of Sweden emphasized the need to establish better working methods for the Senior Advisers and to improve the quality of their meetings and documentation, suggesting that independent scientists and scientific organizations should also be encouraged to participate.

155. Several delegations expressed appreciation of the Senior Advisers' activities related to the problems of economies in transition. Support was also expressed for the forum discussion on the organization and management of R & D and economies in transition to be held at the next session. The delegation of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic welcomed this forum discussion as an opportunity to learn from other countries since its Government was at present in the process of preparing legal, organizational and administrative background for an R & D system.

156. Support was expressed for the work of the Senior Advisers on the review of changes in national science and technology policies with a focus on issues related to economies in transition, as well as on the continuation of the work related to the inventory of existing safety guidelines in biotechnology.

157. The delegations of Bulgaria and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic underlined the importance of the Seminar on the Role of Long-Term Forecasting in the Formulation of Science and Technology Policies held in Prague (Czech and Slovak Federal Republic) in 1990.

158. The delegations of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Sweden and the USSR stressed the need to improve cooperation with other international organizations, in particular with OECD. The delegation of Sweden noted the importance of finding a specific niche and a competitive advantage for the Senior Advisers in relation to other organizations. In the view of the delegation of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, considerable potential existed to strengthen contacts between both organizations on activities related to methodological, statistical and other aspects of science and technology policy-making. The delegation of the USSR advocated the need to embark on coordinated actions in the European region in the field of science and technology, taking into account what was being done within ECE, EC, EFTA and other regional organizations.

159. As for new possible areas for cooperation, the Bulgarian delegation referred to its proposal to the Senior Advisers related to science and technology policy under market economy conditions and requested the Senior Advisers to address directly the relevant needs of economies in transition.

160. The delegation of Austria referred to its initiative on elaborating a European Convention on Coordinated Disaster Relief and considered that ECE would be a suitable framework for elaborating such a convention.

161. The Commission endorsed the report of the Senior Advisers, including the programme of work.

Inland Transport Committee

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/85 and Add.1, E/ECE/1238, TRANS/SC1/R.216/Add.1

162. This item was considered together with item 4(g) - Cooperation in the field of transport.

163. The work of the Committee received general approval. Delegations emphasized the importance of transport for the ECE region in view of the integration and transition processes taking place in Europe at present. Delegations welcomed the efforts made by the Committee to further streamline its working procedures in order to respond rapidly and efficiently to the emerging needs of member Governments.

164. In this context all delegations taking the floor endorsed the priority tasks identified by the Committee and pointed out that work in the fields of the transport of dangerous goods, vehicle construction, road traffic safety, environmentally sound transport systems, including combined transport and coherent transport infrastructure should be given additional support.

165. Many delegations expressed their support for the technical infrastructure UNDP projects administered by the ECE such as the Trans-European North-South road and railway projects (TEM and TER) and commended the Committee for its successful work on the establishment of legal régimes facilitating international all-European coordination and cooperation in the field of road, rail and combined transport (AGR1, AGC and AGTC Agreements). It was felt that work on the East-West transport component of these projects and legal régimes should be intensified and corridor studies be undertaken in view of rapidly increasing traffic on this transport connection.

166. In this respect the delegation of the USSR suggested that a white paper on inland navigation be prepared and a draft European Agreement on Main International Waterways (AGN) be elaborated as well as a European Agreement on the transport of dangerous goods by all modes.

167. Several delegations noted with satisfaction that work on the revision of the 1968 Conventions on Road Traffic and Road Signs and Signals and the 1971 European Agreement supplementing them and of the European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR) had been completed and the new European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) had been opened for signature at Geneva.

168. With regard to the AGTC Agreement, the delegations of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and of Germany informed the Commission that their Governments were ready to sign the Agreement, the delegation of Yugoslavia stated that his Government would sign the Agreement before March 1992 and the delegation of Belgium expressed the hope that the AGTC Agreement would come into force soon.

169. Many delegations welcomed the initiation of work on a revision during 1991 of the 1958 Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Conditions of Approval and Reciprocal Recognition of Approval for Motor Vehicle Equipment and Parts with the aim of improving vehicle safety, protecting the environment and encouraging energy savings and of enlarging its geographical scope to a global level.

170. While expressing concern about the situation with regard to secretariat resources in the important fields of transport of dangerous goods several delegations noted with satisfaction related improvements in the field of the construction of vehicles and the commitment made by the Executive Secretary to provide additional staff to the Transport Division so as to bring the number of professional and general service staff up to 28 posts.

171. The confirmation by the Government of Hungary of its offer to host a workshop on the relationship between the State and the railways and another on inland water transport, both to be held in the latter half of 1991, was noted with appreciation.

172. The delegation of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic informed the Commission that under the auspices of Mr. Havel, President of the Republic, the European Transport Conference would take place in that country on 29-31 October 1991, organized by the European Parliament and the Commission of the European Communities and in cooperation with the ECE and the ECMT.

173. Noting an error in the programme of work of the Committee as contained in document ECE/TRANS/85/Add.1, the correction was made to accord programme element 09.2.3 Inland water infrastructure priority level 2.

174. The Commission endorsed the report of the Inland Transport Committee including its revised structure and the programme of work.

Conference of European Statisticians

Documentation: ECE/CES/36, E/ECE/1234

175. This item was considered together with item 4(c) - Statistical activities.

176. The successful implementation of the decisions of the forty-fifth Commission session with regard to statistical activities in the ECE region was commended by many delegations. It was pointed out with satisfaction that the Conference had been the first Principal Subsidiary Body to

react promptly and rapidly to the new socio-economic situation in Europe and especially to the needs of transition countries. The initiatives of the Conference to restructure and re-orient its programme of work according to new priorities and needs and the practical work carried out by the secretariat in organizing meetings and the implementation of transition projects were highly appreciated by several delegations. In this regard, the Budapest Seminar on Transition Problems was specifically mentioned as an important event which gave impetus to activities providing statistical assistance to countries in transition from centrally-planned to market economies. Several delegations expressed their satisfaction with other joint meetings and workshops organized in collaboration with EUROSTAT, OECD and the World Bank. Gratitude was expressed by transition countries for the professional and financial help provided to them by some western countries.

177. Several delegations pointed out that the Conference, being the only statistical body to include all the countries of the region, should continue to play a leading role in shaping statistical cooperation. The opinion was expressed that the adoption of a resolution on fundamental principles and guidelines for official statistics in the ECE region would enhance the process of integration of European statistics as a whole. It was underlined that the problems arising in transition countries should constitute a priority area in the programme of work of the Conference.

178. The delegation of Belgium commended the Conference on its various efforts to improve coordination of statistical activities. In particular, the various intersecretariat working groups were mentioned as being valuable for avoiding duplication and for sharing work among the international agencies concerned.

179. The Chairman of the Conference informed the Commission that as the role of the Conference as a forum for cooperation had been extended to cover statistical coordination among international organizations, the Bureau had expressed interest in the participation of EUROSTAT and the head of statistical activities of the OECD Secretariat as observers at its meetings. Several delegations supported a proposal to establish a system of cooperation which would result in an integrated work programme covering all the statistical activities of the various international organizations. It was also recommended that steps be taken to obtain joint schedules of meetings as well as to intensify cooperation in the area of publications. One delegation recalled the provision of decision O (45) calling for an evaluation of statistical publications to distinguish between the most and the less useful whose outcome could have a bearing on the question of resources, and stressed the importance his authorities attached to this exercise. His remarks were supported by another delegation. The Chairman considered the dissemination of statistical data and publications as an important task and stated that the Bureau of the Conference would continue to pursue this matter.

180. On the topic of data exchange, one delegation recommended the further development and more extensive use of inter-connections to the ECE data base.

181. The development and adoption of internationally agreed classifications, nomenclatures and standards were referred to as an important area of work. The opinion was expressed that in some areas, such as business registers and service statistics, the leading role should be played by EUROSTAT.

182. It was stressed that further developments were needed in environment statistics and that the Conference should continue its work in this field.

183. High importance was also attached to the work on social and demographic statistics and on electronic data processing. A proposal was put forward by the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic to include a regional ECE/UNDP transition project on applied statistical computing in the Fifth UNDP Cycle, and the support of the ECE secretariat was requested. In addition, the work done by

the Conference on developing computerized statistical information systems and data banks was considered useful and worth continuing.

184. The Commission endorsed the report of the Conference including its programme of work.

Working Party on the Chemical Industry

Documentation: ECE/CHEM/77

185. The delegation of Belgium expressed satisfaction with the projects in the fields of environmental protection and statistics, recommending that the Working Party coordinate its activities in these fields with other ECE organs concerned.

186. Several delegations voiced their appreciation of the studies under preparation, including the Rational Use of Water and its Treatment in the Chemical Industry, Substitutes for Tripolyphosphate in Detergents, Management of Plastic Wastes in the ECE Region, as well as the Annual Review of the Chemical Industry. Some delegations pointed out the importance of the results of the Seminar on Changes in Eastern Chemical Markets - the Role of Joint Ventures, Wholly-Owned Subsidiaries and Industry Federations. Special attention was given to two new projects, the ECE Directory of Chemical Producers and Products and the High-Level Meeting on Cooperation and Sustainable Development in the Chemical Industry.

187. A number of delegations expressed their appreciation of the activities of the Working Party on environmental issues, sustainable development, and assistance to countries in transition, including the restructuring of the chemical industry and its adaptation to market economy conditions.

188. The delegation of Poland confirmed its readiness to host the High-Level Meeting on Cooperation and Sustainable Development in the Chemical Industry at the beginning of 1992. It also extended an invitation to hold the Meeting of Rapporteurs on Aromatic Hydrocarbons and Olefins in 1991 in Warsaw and to organize, in the first half of 1991, a Workshop on methods of improving the effectiveness of the Polish chemical industry.

189. The delegation of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic invited the Working Party to assist in organizing, during the second half of 1991, a workshop on the establishment and operation of a chemical industry federation in that country.

190. The delegation of Romania requested the secretariat to explore the possibility of organizing a workshop in 1992/93 in its country on the rational use of raw materials and energy, and pollution reduction in its chemical industry, to be followed by a study tour of the country's main chemical plants.

191. The Commission endorsed the report of the former Chemical Industry Committee, including the programme of work.

Working Party on Steel

Documentation: ECE/STEEL/72

192. Several delegations underlined the importance of the Working Party as a unique forum for multilateral cooperation between steel producers of different countries, for the exchange of information and experience between national industries and for seeking practical solutions, with the assistance of national experts, to a wide variety of issues faced by the steel industries. The Working Party was invited to contribute to easing the painful adjustments experienced by some

of the countries in the region during the transition period and to improving the exchange of information between these countries

193. Delegations expressed their interest in the organization of annual seminars and study tours. They affirmed the usefulness of the seminar in Genoa, and the study tour in Germany held in the past year and voiced interest in the forthcoming seminars (Kiev, Geneva) and the study tours to be held in France (1991), Yugoslavia (1992) and Bulgaria (1993).

194. Attention was drawn to the importance of the annual study of short-term trends and problems in the steel industry and market. Several delegations supported the projects regarding protection of the environment.

195. Several delegations underlined the importance of steel statistics and supported the action of the Working Party to provide quarterly and annual statistics on production and trade in steel.

196. Delegations underlined the practical work of the Working Party in organizing seminars and workshops in cooperation with the concerned industrial sectors, to assist countries in transition towards a market economy, such as the workshop organized on the USSR Steel Industry in Transition towards Market Conditions. The delegation of Romania confirmed the intention of its Government to organize a workshop on the Restructuring of the Romanian Steel Industry in October 1991. The Canadian delegation reiterated its disappointment that the reforms undertaken during the past year did not go far enough in changing the structures, mandates and work programmes of the committees dealing with non-priority areas. It cited the Steel Committee as one of those Committees whose activities Canada no longer considered of value, and in which experts did not participate. The delegation called on the Commission to adjust its activities in the industry sector to focus on industrial adjustment.

197. The Commission endorsed the report of the former Steel Committee, including the programme of work.

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Review of the economic situation in Europe
(agenda item 3)

Documentation: Pre-publication text of the Economic Survey of Europe in 1990-1991 and Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 42

198. Delegations reported on economic performance in their countries in 1990 and the prospects for 1991, including policy problems pertaining to the region as a whole and to Mediterranean countries.

199. In general, delegations agreed with the assessment of economic developments and prospects in Europe and North America contained in the Survey. Several delegations stressed the importance of a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations, since failure would carry considerable risks for the longer-term development of the world economy.

200. It was pointed out that after eight years of uninterrupted economic growth the forces underlying the current upswing of the industrial countries had been weakening in the course of 1990, reflecting *inter alia* the earlier tightening of policies to contain inflation and the consequences of the Gulf war. Some countries even moved into recession in the second half of 1990. Expectations were for a recovery of growth in the second half of 1991 or in 1992. One consequence of the overall slow-down in economic growth had been a rise in the already high levels of unemployment, which was a matter of concern.

201. Many delegations commented upon the economic situation in the transition economies and noted that the earlier euphoria had given way to a more sober assessment of the enormous complexity of the task ahead.

202. The analysis of the economic problems facing these countries as presented in the Survey was regarded as substantive and a valuable basis for further policy discussion.

203. In assessing economic developments in the countries of central and eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, the marked deterioriation in economic performance in 1990 was noted, reflected in a large fall in output and growing unemployment in some of these countries. Domestic and external imbalances had worsened in most countries. The ongoing reforms and severe stabilization measures introduced in some countries, together with multiple external shocks, such as the disintegration of CMEA trade, the effects of German unification and the Gulf crisis had contributed significantly to the deep recession in the east.

204. Several speakers focused on the economic reforms and the process of transition to a market economy. They described the measures taken or proposed for the near future, and which concerned mainly liberalization of prices and foreign trade, the reshaping of property rights and macro-economic stabilization. Since both systemic changes and stabilization measures were likely to exacerbate economic problems in the short run, the short-term prospects were considered to be bleak. This pointed to the need for further reforms, including privatization, which was seen as necessary for a recovery in domestic investment. Some delegations noted the growing inter-dependence of European economies and the importance of western economic and technical assistance.

205. In the area of trade, delegations suggested that the secretariat examine the role of the international environment in the development of transition countries' trade and that it monitor the progress of their integration into the world economy.

206. The transition economies referred to reforms affecting their foreign sectors, particularly to the liberalization of their trade and payments régimes. So far, however, the pace of structural change, including changes in the composition of exports, had been slow.

207. The process of transforming and restructuring the east European economies would call for their full integration into the world economy and for new forms of cooperation within the ECE region.

208. A number of delegations commented on the present and future contents of the Survey. Several delegations praised the secretariat for an in depth analysis of the economic developments and reforms in the countries in transition. One delegation found that the share of the Survey devoted to the countries in transition was disproportionately large and that more attention should be paid to developments in the region as a whole. It suggested that member Governments should have a say in determining the issues to be studied by the secretariat. Another delegation expressed the view that the Survey should concentrate on comparative analysis of the reform progress and developments in the economies in transition, leaving detailed analysis by country to other organizations, while another argued that each country in transition was a case in itself and that the Survey should present developments in the economies in transition primarily by country. Yet another delegation considered that the usefulness of the Survey would be considerably enhanced if the prospective part of its analysis could be extended. Several delegations presented new data on developments in their countries or requested corrections in the data as presented in the pre-publication version.

Follow-up action on relevant Commission decisions

The work of the Commission concerning economies in transition in eastern and central Europe

(agenda item 4(a))

Documentation: E/ECE/1232

209. In introducing the agenda item, the Executive Secretary stated that progress had been made in elaborating a programme of workshops to assist member countries in transition to a market economy. Principal Subsidiary Bodies had shown remarkable flexibility and imagination in organizing workshops. There were clear advantages in holding these workshops in countries in transition, although difficulties had been encountered by these countries in finding the necessary funding in convertible currency for either hosting or attending the workshops. Various ways of sponsoring the workshops should be sought.

210. Delegations welcomed the efforts made by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies in adjusting their programmes of work and making provision for activities designed to assist member countries in transition. The adjustments were seen as heightening the efficiency of the work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies. A number of advantages provided by the workshops were quoted notably their topical subjects, pragmatic nature, short time frame, limited documentation, the opportunity for direct dialogue between experts, and their cost effectiveness as well as the cooperation among participating enterprises.

211. Appreciation was expressed for the results obtained from the workshops already held and from other activities designed to assist countries in transition. A number of topics for possible future workshops or seminars and a number of other actions to assist member countries in transition were suggested. They are reflected in the parts of this report dealing with sectoral activities.

212. Several delegations noted that the transition process had proved more painful and complex than originally expected, emphasizing the need for additional international assistance. The delegation of the USSR proposed that the ECE initiate the development of recommendations designed to alleviate the specific problems of the economies in transition. In particular, it mentioned that ECE could assist in arranging an independent expert evaluation of projects and programmes of transition to market economy through participation in the establishment of an Institute for International Expertise.

Climate change

(agenda item 4(b))

Documentation: E/ECE/1233

213. The Commission took note of document E/ECE/1233.

Statistical activities

(agenda item 4(c))

214. This item was considered in conjunction with item 2(b) - Conference of European Statisticians (see paragraphs 175 to 184 above).

ECE's contribution to the implementation of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, including earthquake prediction

(agenda item 4(d))

215. This item was considered in conjunction with item 2(b) - Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology (see paragraphs 151 to 161 above).

The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development
(agenda item 4(e))

Documentation: E/ECE/1236

216. The Commission took note of document E/ECE/1236.

Cooperation in the field of environmental protection and water resources and in the field of long-range transboundary air pollution
(agenda item 4(f))

Documentation: E/ECE/1237

217. The delegations of Austria and the Ukrainian SSR made statements under this agenda item which were reflected under item 2(b) - Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems (see paragraphs 96 to 113 above).

218. At its eighth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision E (46) on cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development (for the text see Chapter IV).

Cooperation in the field of transport
(agenda item 4(g))

Documentation: E/ECE/1238

219. This item was considered in conjunction with item 2(b) - Inland Transport Committee (see paragraphs 162 to 174 above).

220. At its eighth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision F (46) on cooperation in the field of transport (for the text see Chapter IV).

Economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe
(agenda item 4(h))

Documentation: E/ECE/1239

221. Delegations speaking on this item underlined the importance of strengthening and enhancing the work of the ECE on economic cooperation in the Mediterranean region in the light of the Helsinki Final Act of the CSCE and subsequent CSCE documents. It was suggested that such activities be further expanded and intensified, notably those related to economic, technological and environmental cooperation, transportation, tourism, scientific research, human settlements and joint ventures for industrial cooperation. The promotion and enhancement of various forms of economic activities would serve the interests of all members of the ECE region.

222. The delegation of Egypt welcomed the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and recalled a proposal made by its Government that the principles enshrined in the Charter should go beyond the borders of Europe to other parts of the world where conflicts still prevailed. It considered that this proposal deserved attention as it aimed to overcome the widening gap between northern and southern Mediterranean countries. Several delegations mentioned that the process of transformation in central and eastern Europe would have a direct impact on the Mediterranean region.

223. Delegations noted with satisfaction the substantive contribution of the ECE to the CSCE Palma de Mallorca Meeting on the Mediterranean as well as the follow-up activities which had

given new impetus to cooperation in the region. The delegation of Israel welcomed the emphasis that had been given to regional cooperation at the Palma meeting, in particular in safeguarding the environment, development of alternate energy systems - in particular solar energy - and rational water usage.

224. The delegation of Malta reaffirmed the importance of strengthening the ECE activities on those areas mentioned in the report of the Executive Secretary, and pointed out that such activities lead to action-oriented work programmes. It underlined that its country would like to see an increased interregional cooperation on subjects of common interest to all the Mediterranean countries to favour the economic growth of the Mediterranean States, especially those developing from an economic point of view.

225. Delegations reiterated the importance of cooperation with other regional commissions, international organizations, and intergovernmental institutions. In this context, the delegation of Turkey noted with satisfaction the progress achieved in the development of the UNDP/ECE Mediterranean Transport Development Project and stressed that the secretariat's active involvement would be instrumental for the project's success. It underlined the significance of the role played by the Mediterranean Transport Centres in the work of ECE and called upon the Executive Secretary to take all necessary measures to give effect to the 1988 ECOSOC decision which conferred UN Status on the Centres. The same delegation also indicated its expectation for the implementation of the second operative paragraph of decision L (45).

Standardization and related activities
(agenda item 4(i))

Documentation: E/ECE/1240, ECE/STAND/32

226. Satisfaction was expressed with the results achieved by the Eleventh Meeting of Government Officials and the Commission decision to restructure this body into a Working Party reporting directly to the Commission was welcomed. The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR suggested that it might be appropriate for the Working Party to review its terms of reference in order to take into account developments taking place at international level and to coordinate policy among the various regional commissions.

227. The Commission endorsed the report of the Eleventh Meeting of Government Officials, including the programme of work.

Engineering industries and automation
(agenda item 4(j))

Documentation: E/ECE/1241, ECE/ENG.AUT/46

228. Several delegations welcomed the fact that the Working Party had restructured its programme of work for 1991-1995 in favour of priority activities of the Commission, including a new subprogramme on practical problems faced by economies in transition, such as privatization, the promotion of investments in new machinery and equipment and the provision of international expertise. The first of a series of workshops on this subject would be hosted by the Government of Bulgaria.

229. The delegation of Finland supported further work on engineering and automation statistics, including the continuation of close cooperation with OECD in this field. However, the delegation requested that the Working Party's position be clarified vis-à-vis OECD and UNIDO so as to avoid duplication of activity, particularly in the area of statistics. Several delegations supported the continuation of the Study on Medium- and Long-term Assessment of the Role and Place of

Engineering Industries in National and World Economies with use of statistical information from the Annual Reviews.

230. It was noted that, following the Seminar on Air Pollution Control in Engineering Industries held at Geneva in November 1990 at the invitation of the Government of Switzerland, two more seminars were scheduled for 1992 and 1993, at the invitation of the Ukrainian SSR and the Byelorussian SSR, respectively. It was also recommended that the ongoing study on Low-Waste Technologies in Engineering Industries be finalized as soon as possible.

231. Several delegations supported the activities having environmental, social and humanitarian aspects. Support was expressed for ongoing activities on rehabilitation engineering, including workshops on rehabilitation engineering (United States 1990, Norway 1991). The delegation of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic confirmed its interest in organizing the third Workshop during the second half of 1991 in its country. The secretariat had been entrusted with the preparation of a publication on rehabilitation engineering, to be considered as a contribution of the Commission to mark the end of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, 1983-1992. Both the study and the study tour (Hungary, October 1991) on food-processing and packaging machinery, with special emphasis on issues of interest to economies in transition, were supported.

232. The delegation of Belgium expressed serious doubts as to the utility of the activities of the Working Party, which could be incorporated into the work programme of other ECE bodies.

233. In responding to the guidelines for ranking priorities contained in decision O (45), the Working Party had adopted a ranking system of high, medium and low priorities. The delegation of the United States pointed out that this did not fulfil the requirements of decision O (45), which in such cases required the Sessional Committee to decide on a rank order. Since the Working Party would not meet until 1993, it was essential that this requirement be fulfilled. As requested, the secretariat distributed a rank-ordering of priorities from 1 to 10, which it had submitted to the Working Party for its consideration at its eleventh session. The Sessional Committee approved this rank-ordering and included it in the Working Party's programme of work.

234. The Commission endorsed the report of the Working Party, including the programme of work, with the addition of the rank-ordering of priorities of its programme elements approved by the Sessional Committee, and the revised terms of reference.

The activities of the Economic Commission for Europe
(agenda item 4(k))

Documentation: E/ECE/1242

235. The Executive Secretary indicated that since the adoption of decision O (45) meetings had been held by four Principal Subsidiary Bodies - namely, the Committee on the Development of Trade, the Inland Transport Committee, the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems and the Committee on Agricultural Problems - as well as the Working Parties on gas, electric power and engineering industries and automation. He indicated the ways in which these bodies had responded to the provisions of decision O (45), and the difficulties that some bodies had experienced in rank ordering the elements in their programmes of work. In describing the action taken by the secretariat in response to the provisions of decision O (45) the Executive Secretary referred to the revised staffing table which he had drawn up to redeploy a significant number of posts from non-priority to priority areas of activity. He described the efforts underway to harmonize the approach among secretariat divisions to priority activities, especially those of an interdisciplinary nature. He emphasized the efforts made by the secretariat to ensure greater cooperation and coordination with other international economic institutions to avoid duplication of work. He referred to document E/ECE/1242 for a more detailed account of the secretariat's response to decision O (45).

236. Delegations considered decision O (45) to be an excellent foundation for the future work of the Commission. They stressed the importance of implementing all provisions of the decision fully and expeditiously and applying them uniformly to all subsidiary bodies. They called for immediate steps to ensure that the necessary staff and financial resources be allocated to the priority areas of activity. Delegations stressed the importance of close cooperation with the Commission of the European Communities, the OECD and other international organizations.

237. The delegation of Belgium considered decision O (45) to be a milestone in the work of the Commission. Not only did it identify the priority areas of activity of the Commission, but in doing so, it provided the Commission with the means to allocate its available resources to areas where it could play an important role, where its reputation was internationally recognized and where it could contribute most effectively to the process of transition in countries of central and eastern Europe. It agreed that issues of transition were indeed important. They should, however, be considered according to their own merits in the context of priorities defined by the Commission rather than be considered a general priority. It cautioned against considering the problems of transition as a general priority of the Commission, something which in its view would go beyond decision O (45). The European Community and its member States wished to point out, with reference to paragraph 16 of document E/ECE/1244, that neither urban transport nor tourism came within the competence of the Inland Transport Committee, as the latter had in fact confirmed at its preceding session in January. The European Community and its member States were nevertheless open to any discussion of the question in the context of the Inland Transport Committee's mandate, so as to be able, if necessary, to deal with requests made by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned.

238. The delegation of the USSR, supported by some other delegations, stated that one of the main achievements of the resumed forty-fifth session had been the recognition by the Commission that assistance in the transition to a market economy and in ensuring an environmentally sustainable development was an intersectoral priority and a guiding principle to be applied to the work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies respectively. They also confirmed that all programme elements of subsidiary bodies in non-priority areas, related to the priority issues, were also intersectoral priorities.

239. While expressing a degree of satisfaction concerning the provisions contained in decision O (45), the delegations of Canada and the United States expressed regret that it had not been possible to make more sweeping reforms in non-priority areas and that in some cases restructuring had not been as radical as the situation demanded. The delegation of the United States considered that those bodies working in non-priority areas of activity should restrict their activities in order not to overtax the resources and capacity of the secretariat. The delegation of Canada suggested that the ECE increasingly concentrate its resources on priority areas where it could make a unique and significant contribution, and quickly revise or abandon activities which were not compatible with a market-oriented approach to economic development. It noted that in leaving Committee structures very much in tact the Commission was handicapped in its efforts to establish its claim to an important role in growing East-West competition. This was because several of these Committee's mandates and work programmes were ill suited to the imperatives of the Commission, notably aiding the transition to a market economy and promoting sustainable development.

240. The delegation of the United States, supported by those of Canada and Belgium, noted that some of those bodies which had met since the adoption of decision O (45) had not correctly carried out the provisions of that decision as regards the rank-ordering of priorities of the elements in their programmes of work and recommended that they be reminded of their obligation to do so.

EDIFACT
(agenda item 4(1))

241. Delegations speaking on this item commented favourably on the international and national development of the UN/EDIFACT system and expressed their appreciation to the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures and to the secretariat as regards the results achieved. The secretariat was asked to clarify the allocation of resources required by the Working Party to develop and maintain EDIFACT, according to decision J (45). Trade facilitation was recognized as a priority area of activity, and the delegations insisted on the need to make speedy arrangements for assigning additional resources to UN/EDIFACT work.

242. Several delegations reported on administrative and institutional measures being taken in their countries to set up an appropriate framework for the introduction and implementation of EDIFACT. In this respect, the activities of the regional EDIFACT Boards and the Joint Rapporteurs Team, acting under the auspices of the Working Party and now consisting of five regional Rapporteurs (for eastern Europe, North America, western Europe, Australia-New Zealand and Japan Singapore), were noted with satisfaction.

243. The delegation of Belgium expressed support for the results of the Working Party's activity and the strong wish that UN/EDIFACT directories be stabilized in the near future: such stability was needed for the generalized use of EDIFACT in the context of the Single Market in 1993.

244. Support was expressed for the position taken by the Working Party concerning the draft project approved by ECOSOC for interregional cooperation and coordination in the area of trade facilitation and, in particular, the phased application of UN/EDIFACT whenever appropriate, prepared by the five regional commissions and UNCTAD pursuant to ECOSOC resolution 1989/118. In its report the Working Party had recognized that trade facilitation and UN/EDIFACT were global objectives requiring interregional cooperation; however, it had recommended that all possible implications of the interregional project for ECE secretariat resources should be considered carefully. Delegations mostly expressed concern about possibly diverting resources to pursue the interregional project. The Commission agreed that a solid foundation for UN/EDIFACT at the regional level should be created before proceeding to the global application of EDIFACT. It was further noted that the training component of the regional project was applicable to, and a desirable objective for, the ECE economies in transition as well as for other ECE member countries where international facilitation of trade procedures was still at an early stage.

245. Support was expressed for these objectives, provided that the staff and other resources required could be obtained from United Nations and other development funding organizations and voluntary bilateral donations, and did not require the use of regular ECE resources available to support the activities of the Working Party. The Commission reserved its final decision on the draft project for interregional cooperation pending a full evaluation of the resource implications to be provided by the Executive Secretary to the next ad hoc informal meeting of the Commission; and agreed that if this evaluation provided appropriate reassurances, the interregional project would be commended to ECOSOC at its second regular session in 1991, along with a recommendation that ECOSOC call upon multilateral and bilateral donors to support the interregional project.

246. In response to a request by the delegation of the United States, the secretariat provided written and oral information on the implementation of decision J (45) regarding the allocation of additional resources to EDIFACT work. The Sessional Committee took note of that information. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary to report to it at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of decisions J and O (45).

Recommendations of the Sessional Committee

247. At its sixth meeting, the Commission heard a report by the Chairman of the Sessional Committee on the outcome of its deliberations on the activities of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, and the Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission, on follow-up action on relevant Commission decisions of the forty-fifth session and the programme of work for 1991-1995.

248. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee informed the Commission that the participants had reviewed the activities and programmes of work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and the four Working Parties that report directly to the Commission, as presented by their respective Chairmen. The discussions had been thorough and constructive, and interesting and comprehensive views on the various agenda items had been presented.

249. Delegates expressed a common opinion that all ECE subsidiary bodies should continue their work on adjusting their programme of work to the provisions of decision O (45).

250. On behalf of the Sessional Committee, the Chairman of the Committee recommended:

(a) That the Commission approve its programme of work for 1991-1992 and endorse in principle, subject to review at its forty-seventh session, its programme of work for 1992-1995;

(b) That the Commission approve the reports of the ECE subsidiary bodies and where applicable the revised terms of reference;

(c) That the Commission approve the decision taken by Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems on the European Red List of Globally Threatened Animals and Plants;

(d) That the Commission approve the change of title of the following subsidiary bodies:

"the Committee on Agricultural Problems" to "the Committee on Agriculture";

"the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning" to "the Committee on Human Settlements";

(e) That the Executive Secretary prepare a progress report covering work undertaken by those bodies which would not hold their meetings between the forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions of the Commission. Enabling decisions were thought to be unnecessary for the four Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission because of the ongoing mandate provided by O (45);

(f) The Sessional Committee noted that a number of subsidiary bodies of the Commission had not correctly carried out the provisions of decision O (45) as regards the rank-ordering of priorities of the programme elements of the programme of work and recommended to the Commission that it remind those subsidiary bodies of their obligation to do so.

251. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee thanked the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, the participants and all those who had contributed to the Committee's work.

252. The Chairman of the Commission expressed to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Sessional Committee and to all representatives who had taken part in the Committee's deliberations, the Commission's appreciation and thanks for the work which they had accomplished.

Programme of work for 1991-1995
(agenda item 7)

Documentation: E/ECE/1245

253. The delegation of Belgium said that, in accordance with decision A (44) and in the light of decisions O and P (45), the European Community and its member States requested the secretariat to distribute as soon as possible to member States the section of the draft United Nations programme budget for the 1992-1993 biennium dealing with ECE. The European Community and its member States would also be grateful if the secretariat could provide it with all available information so that an exchange of views at expert level could be held in Geneva in the near future and in any event before the thirty-first session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (New York, 13 May-17 June 1991).

254. In response the Executive Secretary informed delegations that the ECE section of the Secretary-General's budget submission for the biennium 1992-1993 had just been finalized by the Budget Division at Headquarters, but was not yet issued in printed form; the secretariat was trying to obtain an advance copy which would be made available to Permanent Missions in Geneva as soon as possible. He went on to recall that the Secretary-General, in his instructions on the preparation of the budget, had indicated that the proposed programme budget in fascicle form could only be reviewed by the ACABQ and the CPC as well as in the Fifth Committee prior to its consideration by the General Assembly and not by other intergovernmental and expert bodies. He noted however that what was proposed was an exchange of views on the subject at the expert level - which he understood would be of an informal nature - and not a review of the budget fascicle.

255. It was agreed that the secretariat, in consultation with delegations, would assist in scheduling the exchange of views proposed.

256. The delegation of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, in accordance with the provisions of Council resolution 1990/12, indicated its Government's readiness to host a preparatory meeting in the ECE region in 1994 for the World Conference on Women to be held in 1995. It proposed an amendment to programme element 00.3.2 of the programme of work: the Commission's contribution to the Follow-up of the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the United Nations Decade for Women. The Commission approved this amendment.

257. On the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its programme of work for 1991-1992 and endorsed in principle, subject to review at its forty-seventh session, its programme of work for 1991-1995 as set out in document E/ECE/1245.

Other business
(agenda item 8)

258. The member countries of the ECE had been informed about the letter sent by Israel to the ECOSOC on its application to become a member of ECE. In the light of the views expressed by all the delegations during informal consultations the Chairman stated that he was in a position to present the consensus reached which would be reflected in the report of the session, namely "the Commission took note of the renewal of Israel's application to the ECOSOC for temporary admission as a member of ECE, and looked forward to a decision by the ECOSOC towards the admission of Israel in accordance with its application."

259. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the tentative date for the holding of the forty-seventh session of the Commission in Geneva was 7-15 April 1992. In proposing these dates he explained that they respected the established ECE practice of convening the session to avoid as far as possible the holidays of Easter and May Day. They also avoided overlap with the CSCE Follow-up Meeting which opens in Helsinki on 24 March. The Commission decided to leave to

the Executive Secretary the responsibility for determining, in consultation with the Officers of the Commission and in the light of the relevant arrangements of ECOSOC and the General Assembly, the precise dates of the forty-seventh session, and requested the Executive Secretary to inform the Governments thereon.

260. Pursuant to Council resolution 1894 (LVII) the Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the provisional agenda for the forty-seventh session, which would be prepared in consultation with the Officers of the Commission, would be along the same basic lines as this year's agenda. He referred however to the difficulties involved in foreseeing what would happen in the coming months in view of the rapid changes under way in the region. He stated his intention to make full use of the established ECE practice of discussing the proposed draft agenda with the Bureau in the light of prevailing circumstances, and thus to ensure that the members of the Commission would be involved in the shaping of the agenda in good time. He also noted that in accordance with decision P (45) the Commission would convene an ad hoc informal session at least once every three months with a view, inter alia, to preparing the annual Commission session.

Adoption of decisions

261. At its eighth meeting the Commission adopted six decisions, the full texts of which are contained in Chapter IV.

262. On this occasion, the delegation of Malta expressed its regret that a draft decision on economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which Malta had sponsored with others, and which had commanded a consensus in the informal negotiations, in its amended version, on all of its 15 paragraphs except for a preambular one, could not reach the Plenary for the traditional consensus approval. This put into doubt the fairness and effectiveness of the procedure being adopted to negotiate and approve decisions. The reasons for this failure would be hard to explain and it gave examples where more mature treatment of similar difficulties had made it possible for progress to be registered while individual interests were safeguarded.

263. The delegation of Yugoslavia supported this view, emphasizing that the ECE was an all-European organ for the development of regional cooperation and thus a forum where all countries should have the possibility to present their difficulties and their need for cooperation and support. The UN/ECE should not become an exclusively technical organ. Together with other countries, Yugoslavia felt that ECE should also be a forum for discussion on the consequences of the Gulf war, a problem which should not be marginalized.

264. The delegation of Belgium regretted the absence of a consensus on economic cooperation in the Mediterranean, particularly since none of the operative paragraphs of the draft decision caused any problems. It hoped that the ECE would nevertheless continue its work in the interest of the Mediterranean countries.

265. The delegation of Norway referred to the role of non-governmental organizations which, according to its Government, should be invited to participate in the forthcoming meeting on environmental rights and obligations of individuals, groups and organizations, to be held in the Netherlands. It also regretted that the statement made by Ministers for the environment in Espoo, in February 1991, on the responsibilities of ECE member countries to assist developing countries in their environment and development efforts was not reiterated by the Commission.

Annual Report of the Commission
(agenda item 10)

266. At its eighth meeting, on 17 April 1991, the Commission adopted its report covering the period from 28 April 1990 to 17 April 1991.

CHAPTER IV

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE FORTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

A (46) THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE AND ITS FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Bearing in mind resolution 36 (IV) of the Economic and Social Council of 28 March 1947, containing the mandate of the Economic Commission for Europe,

Conscious of the important role of the ECE as an instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level,

Emphasizing the importance of the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the documents of the Bonn Conference on Economic Cooperation and of other relevant meetings of the CSCE, and having in mind that these documents also contain recommendations directed towards the future work of the Commission,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of decision O (45) (E/ECE/1244), the notes and reports of the Executive Secretary, in particular his report E/ECE/1228 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities since the forty-fifth session, and the programme of work for 1991-1995 (E/ECE/1245), and taking into account decision P (45), taken by its forty-fifth resumed annual session,

1. Reaffirms its determination to implement decisions O (45) and P (45) of the forty-fifth resumed session and requests its subsidiary bodies to carry out without delay the provisions of decision O (45) when reviewing and carrying out their programmes of work and to report on the action taken to the forty-seventh session of the Commission;

2. Requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their work the pertinent provisions of the relevant CSCE documents which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the Economic Commission for Europe; and also requests the Executive Secretary to report if invited to do so to ensure that all relevant meetings of the CSCE are fully apprised of the relevant activities of the ECE;

3. Recalls that in accordance with decision O (45) account should be taken of the impact that ECE activities in sectors not identified as priorities, such as energy, have on priority sectors;

4. Approves its programme of work for 1991-1992 and endorses in principle, subject to review at its forty-seventh session, its programme of work for 1991-1995;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to implement the provisions and recommendations contained in its decisions O (45) and P (45) where the work of the secretariat is concerned and to report to the forty-seventh session of the Commission;

6. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present decision as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by

member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned and requests them to take these into account in their work and when reviewing their respective programmes.

8th meeting
17 April 1991
(see para. 44 above)

B (46) COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND ASSISTANCE TO COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling Council resolution 1990/52 concerning the role of the United Nations in the rapid identification, analysis and observation of the developments which interest the world economy,

Emphasizing the importance of the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and of the Document of the Bonn Conference on Economic Cooperation in Europe, in the framework of the CSCE,

Recalling its decisions D (45) and O (45), stressing the importance it attaches to the promotion of the process of economic reform and transition to market economy in the countries of eastern and central Europe, and conscious of the need to continue to pay special attention to the interests of member countries which are developing from an economic point of view,

Taking into account that the work methods determined to address transition issues should be workshops, symposia and other similar fora which provide the necessary flexibility and informal approach,

Noting with appreciation, in this connection, the measures undertaken, under the auspices of the European Community, by the Group of Twenty four Countries in order to assist the countries in transition,

Stressing the need for increased cooperation between the different existing international institutions to avoid duplication and to ensure the maximum effectiveness of their work,

Keeping in mind that activities of ECE which are particularly relevant to the problems of economies in transition will be positively examined,

Bearing in mind the difficulties of the economies in transition to finance the organization and the participation of experts in workshops,

Conscious of the fact that the consistent application of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 661 has had serious economic, financial and social consequences for some members of the region and of the importance of the action underway in the Security Council on the basis of Resolution 669 and in the relevant international organizations; and aware of the need to study further these consequences in the context of the restructuring process in the ECE region, especially in economies in transition to a market economy,

1. Reaffirms the need for high-quality observation and analysis of the development of economies in the region, and in particular in central and eastern Europe, in order to promote the process of economic reform and to integrate the economies in transition with the global economy. Analytical work on the transition process, including internal and external conditions, should therefore continue to be accorded high priority;

2. Invites Governments of the member countries, the European Community and competent international institutions to participate actively in transition-related activities, and encourages them to consider providing continued assistance, on a bilateral or multilateral basis, for promoting such activities;

3. Recalls its recommendation that, as underlined in the Document of the Bonn Conference and in the Charter of Paris, and in conformity with article 12 of the mandate of the Commission, close cooperation be established with the European Community and with the other international institutions dealing with the same issues of economic research and analysis, including the IMF, IBRD, EBRD, GATT and in particular the OECD, in order to avoid unnecessary duplication of work and to achieve the best implementation of programmes to facilitate the process of transition of countries of central and eastern Europe to a market economy; and requests the Executive Secretary to inform promptly the Governments and competent organizations and to report to the next session of the Senior Economic Advisers, in May 1991, on his consultations to this end;

4. Requests the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to contribute within their competence to the preparation of practical workshops especially on the transition to market economy, and, stressing the need for internal coordination, encourages the Senior Economic Advisers to devote special attention to the implementation by other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of decision D (45) and to evaluate periodically the impact of such activities; it further invites in particular the Governments of central and eastern Europe to submit to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies as soon as possible concrete proposals concerning such projects;

5. Invites the Executive Secretary, within the mandate of the Commission and in accordance with decision O (45), to facilitate consultations with interested countries and international institutions in order to provide expertise on programmes of transition to a market economy;

6. Takes note with interest of the results of the Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics and encourages the Senior Economic Advisers, in coordination with the OECD and the UNCED secretariat, to analyse further the interrelationship between economic activity and the environment, to identify major factors affecting sustainable economic development in the ECE and to study guidelines to achieve such sustainable economic development in the region, taking into account the particular situation of the countries in transition;

7. Encourages the Senior Economic Advisers to pursue, in coordination with the other competent international organizations and Principal Subsidiary Bodies, their analysis of selected medium- and long-term issues such as the trends and factors in the development of personal and collective services, structural changes in regional trade and labour market and their impact on collective growth; and acknowledges the need to develop and maintain, to that effect, a specialized macro-economic data base, including a further adaptation of the SEM model, to facilitate the ECE's economic work;

8. Invites the Senior Economic Advisers and the secretariat, in accordance with the relevant provisions of decision O (45) and having in mind the right and responsibility of the secretariat to exercise independent judgement in its analysis, to deepen their consultations in order to achieve the highest quality of the annual Economic Survey of Europe, notably by improving pre-publication exchange of views; and stresses the need for this Survey to be published in time to enable it to be properly studied and reflected upon during the annual session;

9. Invites the Senior Economic Advisers to study the economic consequences for ECE member countries resulting from the application of the UN Security Council resolution 661; and requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations as well as to the forty-seventh session of the Commission on the findings and recommendations of the Senior Economic Advisers;

10. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to its forty-seventh session on the implementation of this decision.

8th meeting
17 April 1991
(*see* para. 63 *above*)

C (46) INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION TO ADDRESS AND MITIGATE THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE ACCIDENT AT THE CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 45/190 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/50 on international cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant,

Expressing profound concern about ongoing effects on people's lives and health of the disaster at Chernobyl, which had serious national and international consequences of unprecedented scale,

Welcoming the efforts made by the United Nations and organizations of the United Nations system to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the accident at Chernobyl,

Also welcoming the appointment of the Director-General of the Vienna Office as Coordinator of Activities Relating to Chernobyl,

Noting with appreciation the contribution made by a number of its member States to the development of cooperation in minimizing the consequences of the accident and rendering humanitarian assistance to the affected population, especially children,

1. *Notes* with satisfaction the work being done by the Committees on Timber, Agriculture, and Human Settlements, the Conference of European Statisticians, and the Working Parties on the Chemical Industry and Engineering Industries and Automation, in exploring the possibilities to elaborate within their competence projects on problems arising from the Chernobyl accident;

2. *Requests* the above-mentioned Bodies, without prejudice to its decision O (45) and taking into account the work being done by competent international organizations, in particular IAEA and WHO, to continue their efforts in this direction, *invites* other Commission bodies to examine the possibility of making a contribution to this end, and *requests* also the Executive Secretary to support the efforts of the subsidiary bodies in implementation of General Assembly resolution 45/190;

3. *Calls upon* member States to continue their participation in the Commission's activities seeking to alleviate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of this decision.

8th meeting
17 April 1991
(*see* para. 73 *above*)

D (46) THE EUROPEAN RED LIST OF GLOBALLY THREATENED ANIMALS AND PLANTS

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions E (43) and I (44),

Conscious of the need to achieve the aim of conserving the common European heritage of wildlife, particularly globally threatened animal and plant species, and promoting therefore the implementation of the ECE Declaration on Conservation of Flora, Fauna and their Habitats,

1. Decides to adopt the European Red List of Globally Threatened Animals and Plants;

2. Recommends that ECE Governments:

(a) Take account of the European Red List when formulating, adopting and implementing priorities in conservation policies and strategies, both at national and international levels;

(b) Implement appropriate protective measures for species included in the European Red List which are threatened within their territory. For those species which may not currently be threatened in a particular country, populations should at least be monitored so that conservation measures may be introduced as soon as necessary;

(c) Update or undertake the preparation of comprehensive national Red Data Books using the internationally accepted IUCN status categories. Entries for species occurring in the European Red List, for which a country has a particular international responsibility, should be annotated appropriately. Particular attention should be paid to the increasing volume of information relevant to the conservation of lower orders of vertebrates (e.g. reptiles, amphibians and fish), invertebrate animals and plants;

(d) Strengthen national programmes for surveying and monitoring flora, fauna and their habitats with particular emphasis on species included in the European Red List, and maintain national data bases of species status and trends. Such monitoring programmes should be integrated into those monitoring other environmental parameters, as impacts on wildlife may provide early warning of deleterious environmental changes;

(e) Identify, protect and provide for the effective management of important habitats of threatened species;

(f) Collaborate to reintroduce threatened species, where appropriate, from member countries in which the species population is stable and closely related genetically to countries where the species has become extinct - provided that the causal factors for the species' extinction are known and no longer operate and that sufficient suitable habitat is available to ensure the long-term survival of a viable population;

(g) Consider the possibilities offered by direct manipulative methods, such as artificial propagation, captive breeding, restocking and translocation, so as to enhance populations of threatened flora and fauna bearing in mind the consequences, from ecological, and genetic viewpoints, that such measures may bring about;

(h) Strengthen cooperation so as to secure the conservation of globally threatened species in Europe. For this purpose, ECE Governments should inter alia:

(i) Broaden participation in existing international wildlife conservation conventions bearing in mind that many species on the European Red List are included in annexes or appendices to such conventions;

(ii) Promote the development of joint research programmes concerning threatened plants and animals, including migratory species, and sharing nature conservation experience particularly with regard to approaches to the monitoring programmes and exchange of information on population trends, especially those of threatened species;

(iii) Ensure that relevant up-to-date species status and trend data are sent to international data bases, such as those of the UNEP/IUCN/WWF World Conservation Monitoring Centre, the International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) and the International Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Bureau (IWRB), as well as relevant international scientific societies and associations involved in nature conservation;

3. Requests that the Executive Secretary transmit the European Red List to member Governments and international organizations concerned, and arrange for its wide dissemination.

8th meeting
17 April 1991
(see para. 113 above)

E (46) COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions I (42), A (43), G (44), B (45), C (45), E (45), H (45), I (45) and O (45), and welcoming General Assembly Resolutions 44/207 and 45/212 on climate change,

Reaffirming that environmental cooperation is one of the priorities within the ECE, particularly the development of regional environmental policies and the elaboration of legal instruments as well as preventive action,

Bearing in mind the Charter of Paris for a New Europe with special regard to the pledge of the Participating States to intensify their endeavours to protect and improve the environment in order to restore and maintain a sound ecological balance in air, water and soil as well as the need stressed by the Participating States for new measures providing for the systematic evaluation of compliance with the existing commitments;

Welcoming the results of the Regional Conference on the Follow-up to the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development in the ECE Region held in Bergen (Norway) from 8-16 May 1990 and the related report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1236) on the implementation of decision H (45),

Welcoming also the report of the Executive Secretary on the Bergen Conference submitted to the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the Bergen Ministerial Declaration and the Bergen Joint Agenda for Action being the main substantive contribution by the ECE region as such to the 1992 Conference,

Welcoming the establishment by the forty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) for a framework convention on climate change, and convinced that the ECE, in response to General Assembly resolution 43/53, can make an important contribution to consider responses aimed at preventing or adapting to detrimental effects on climate and other activities affecting the ecological balance, Welcoming the February 1991 Espoo Ministerial Statement,

Welcoming also the adoption and the signature by 26 member countries and by the European Community of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context as well as the adoption of the resolution related to this Convention,

Welcoming also the agreement by the Senior Advisers upon the European Red List of Globally Threatened Animals and Plants,

Noting with appreciation the progress that has been achieved within the framework of the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution,

Welcoming the intention of the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic to organize, in cooperation with the Commission of the European Communities and with the assistance of the ECE, a Conference of Ministers for Environment "Environment for Europe", to be held 21-23 June 1991 at Dobris (Czech and Slovak Federal Republic),

Stressing the need for the improvement of environmental management in the light of changing socio-economic conditions, and emphasizing, in this respect, the importance of different bilateral and multilateral assistance programmes to countries with economies in transition and member countries which are developing from an economic point of view,

1. Appeals to ECE member Governments to strengthen further their cooperation and intensify efforts aimed at further protecting and improving the environment;

2. Reiterates its call upon its subsidiary bodies actively to promote sustainable development as a guiding principle for all relevant activities of the ECE on the basis of the Bergen Ministerial Declaration and ECE decision O (45), in accordance with the Espoo Ministerial Statement;

3. Invites the member countries who have not yet done so to sign the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and invites all member countries and the European Community to ratify the Convention as soon as possible, emphasizes the necessity to cooperate on an interim basis on such questions as may be deemed important pending the entry into force of the Convention, and stresses the usefulness of bringing closer together the national and regional policies and strategies in relation to environmental impact assessment;

4. Invites member Governments and the European Community to complete their work on the draft Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes as well as the draft Convention on the Transboundary Impact of Industrial Accidents in order to be ready for adoption as soon as possible, preferably at the fifth session of the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems in 1992, bearing in mind that the results will be evaluated by the next Follow-up Meeting of the CSCE, to be held in Helsinki in 1992;

5. Expresses its satisfaction with the progress achieved towards the preparation of a new protocol on volatile organic compounds by the Working Group on Volatile Organic Compounds and calls upon Contracting Parties to contribute actively to the work of the Working Group on VOCs in order to finalize the protocol for adoption and signature by the ninth session of the Executive Body;

6. Stresses the need to elaborate appropriate proposals for revision of existing, or preparation of new, international agreements for further reduction of sulphur emissions, on the basis of critical loads and other considerations, and invites Contracting Parties and Signatories to contribute fully to the Working Group, established under the Convention, for the development

of a common understanding of critical loads, and of proposals for abatement strategies, taking into account the best available scientific and technological developments, critical loads and overall emission reductions, keeping in mind the financial and technological constraints of some member countries;

7. Appeals to the Contracting Parties of the Convention to strengthen and develop EMEP as agreed upon by the Executive Body at its eighth session;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to ensure that adequate resources are made available to the environment division in accordance with decision O (45);

9. Invites, in particular, the Senior Advisers, in the light of changing socio-economic conditions in the ECE region, to promote the integration of policies based on sustainable development into planning, decision-making and economic activities, which could be carried out, inter alia, by organizing workshops on environmental management;

10. Welcomes the progress already made in developing sectoral and interdisciplinary activities contributing to sustainable development, in particular the work of the Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics, and invites the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems to intensify their cooperation with other bodies of the Commission;

11. Requests the Senior Advisers and the Inland Transport Committee to examine ways, means and resource implications of cooperation between the two bodies, within the priorities they have set for themselves, possibly in the form of interdisciplinary activities or, if appropriate, a Joint Working Group on Environment and Transport, to consider selected aspects related to the integration of environmental considerations into projects and policies in the field of transport;

12. Encourages cooperation between the Senior Advisers and the Committee on Energy in the elaboration and implementation of the ECE wide campaign "Energy Efficiency 2000";

13. Invites the Executive Secretary to continue to bring to the attention of the Executive Secretaries of the other United Nations regional commissions the activities undertaken by ECE aimed at contributing to sustainable development and strengthening of international cooperation in this field, and in particular the results and follow-up of the Bergen Conference;

14. Invites the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems, in accordance with the January 1991 OECD Ministerial Communiqué and the February 1991 Espoo Ministerial Statement, to cooperate closely with the OECD to extend the proposed OECD environmental policy performance reviews to the whole ECE region with a view to meeting domestic environmental policy objectives and strengthening implementation and monitoring the compliance with international environmental commitments;

15. Also invites the Senior Advisers to continue their work aimed at improving the application of effective and environmentally sound technologies and the enhancing of scientific and technological cooperation, including the exchange of information on best available technologies for improved environmental protection, industrial safety and emergency response, in accordance with national laws, regulations and practice, keeping in mind the financial and technological constraints of some member countries;

16. Takes note of the report E/ECE/1223 on climate change and the participation of the ECE secretariat in the sessions of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, expresses its satisfaction that the substantive issues related to climate change have been taken up by a number of ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies, and requests the Executive Secretary to continue to assess the Commission's programmes, activities and discussions bearing on the relationship of human

activities and the climate, taking also into account the ongoing work and studies of the INC, IPCC, OECD and IEA;

17. Urges the ECE member countries, in view of their special responsibilities in relation to global environmental problems and in taking a lead in efforts towards solving these problems, to contribute fully to the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and to work actively towards the completion of a framework convention on climate change and related instruments in time for signing at that Conference;

18. Notes the convening of an ad hoc meeting to be held in The Hague from 1-5 July 1991 to elaborate further the document on environmental rights and obligations (ENVWA/R.38);

19. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of this decision.

8th meeting
17 April 1991
(see para.218 above)

F (46) COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TRANSPORT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision O (45),

Emphasizing the priority attached to transport questions, in particular questions of standardization, administration of agreements and conventions and environmental and safety problems,

Stressing its desire to preserve the ECE's important role in regional transport cooperation,

Reiterating the necessity to support economies in transition in the adaptation of their transport infrastructure and policies,

Continuing to pay attention to the needs and constraints faced by member countries developing from the economic point of view,

Underlining the need to ensure an effective coordination with the secretariats of other competent international organizations and with the European Community in areas of mutual interest, including inland waterways transport, in order to avoid waste of resources and duplication of work,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report and conclusions of the fifty-third session of the Inland Transport Committee and appreciates the timely and thorough review carried out by the Committee in respect of its programme and methods of work and its structure, in accordance with decision O (45);

2. Welcomes the completion of the revision of the 1968 Conventions on Road Traffic and Road Signs and Signals and the 1971 European Agreements supplementing them;

3. Welcomes also the completion of the revision of the European Agreement concerning Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR), thus establishing a single social regime in European road haulage, and appeals to ECE member countries to adopt the revised provisions as soon as possible;

4. Notes with satisfaction the completion of the text of an Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) and its opening for signature on 1 April 1991, and recommends to Governments of concerned ECE member countries signature of this Agreement;

5. Notes with interest the execution of a European road safety week in October 1990 and welcomes the decision to hold a seminar on Road Traffic Safety in spring 1992;

6. Invites Governments, the European Community and competent international organizations to support the workshops that will be organized in special fields of transport, in accordance with decision D (45);

7. Underlines the need to continue the work on harmonization of regulations in all modes of inland transport;

8. Welcomes the decision to hold a final seminar on the question of the Evolution in the Dimensions of Loading Units in September 1992;

9. Welcomes also the intention to arrange a European Transport Conference organized by the European Parliament and the Commission of the European Communities in cooperation with the ECMT and ECE from 29-31 October 1991 in Prague;

10. Reiterates the importance it attaches to the elaboration of a text of a Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers used in International Transport;

11. Underlines the need to promote environmentally sound modes of transport;

12. Reiterates its concern for the proper provision of adequate human and material resources to the Transport Division, in particular a sufficient number of qualified and experienced staff members, and welcomes the commitment undertaken by the Executive Secretary to this effect at the fifty-third session of the Inland Transport Committee;

13. Invites the Executive Secretary to report to the next session of the Inland Transport Committee on his consultations with the secretariats of other international organizations and with the European Communities aimed at coordinating work so as to avoid duplication of work and waste of resources;

14. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of this decision.

8th meeting
17 April 1991
(see para.220 above)

ANNEX I

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION

(TO BE ABSORBED WITHIN THE EXISTING BUDGETARY PROVISIONS)

nil

ANNEX II

LIST OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES IN 1990/91

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
THE COMMISSION		
Special Working Group on Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe	1st meeting 21 June 1990	ECE/AC.19/2
Chairman: Mr. B. Sujka (Poland) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. O. Mennander (Finland)	2nd meeting 13 December 1990	ECE/AC.19/4
Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution		
Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution	8th session 20-22 November 1990	ECE/EB.AIR/24
Chairman: Mr. J. Thompson (Norway) *Vice-Chairmen*: Mr. M. Nowicki (Poland) Mr. V.G. Sokolovsky (USSR) Mr. P. Woltner (France)		
Steering Body to the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)	14th session 29-31 August 1990	EB.AIR/GE.1/16 and Add.1
Chairman: Mr. T. Schneider (Netherlands) *Vice-Chairmen*: Mr. N.Z. Heidam (Denmark) Mr. J. Kolbig (German Democratic Republic) Mr. A. Pressman (USSR) Mr. D.J. Szepesi (Hungary) Mr. E. Weber (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Group of Economic Experts on Air Pollution	6th session 25-27 June 1990	EB.AIR/GE.2/12
Chairman: Mr. B. Schaerer (Federal Republic of Germany) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. V. Tretjakov (USSR)		
Working Group on Effects	9th session 27-29 August 1990	EB.AIR/WG.1/14
Chairman: Mr. R.B. Wilson (United Kingdom) *Vice-Chairmen*: Mr. B. Achermann (Switzerland) Mr. T. Johannessen (Norway) Mr. P. Ringold (United States)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Group on Volatile Organic Compounds	4th session 16-19 July 1990	EB.AIR/WG.4/8
Chairman: Mr. P. Woltner (France) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. M. Nowak (German Democratic Republic)		
Chairman: Mr. P. Woltner (France) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. V. Novotny (Czechoslovakia)	5th session 29 January - 1 February 1991	EB.AIR/WG.4/10
Working Group on Abatement Strategies	4th session 9-12 July 1990	EB.AIR/WG.5/8
Chairman: Mr. V. Sokolovsky (USSR) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. G. Persson (Sweden)	5th session 18-22 February 1991	EB.AIR/WG.5/10

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Chemicals

Chemical Industry Committee	23rd session 3-5 October 1990	ECE/CHEM/77
Chairman: Mr. V. Evsioukov (USSR) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. V. Kamenicky (United States)		
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on the Rational Use of Water and its Treatment in the Chemical Industry	2nd meeting 30-31 August 1990	CHEM/AC.21/5
Chairman: Mrs. R. Hiemke (German Democratic Republic)		
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Substitutes for Tripolyphosphate in Detergents	2nd meeting 22 January 1991	CHEM/AC.22/5
Chairman: Mr. P.G. Dalzero (Italy) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. B.R. Donaldson (United Kingdom)		
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Engineering Plastics	2nd Meeting 27 March 1991	CHEM/AC.23/5
Chairman: Mr. V. Korobov (USSR)		
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Recycling of Plastics in ECE Member Countries	1st meeting 28-29 August 1990	CHEM/AC.24/2
Chairman: Mr. R.N. Liesemer (United States)		
Preparatory Meeting for the High-level Meeting on Sustainable Development in the Chemical and Related Industries	1st meeting 23 January 1991	CHEM/AC.25/2
Chairman: Mr. V.S. Evsioukov (USSR)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting on the Preparation of the Directory of Chemical Producers and Products Chairman: Mr. A. Sieber (Switzerland) Vice-Chairman: Mr. W. Werblinski (Poland)	1st meeting 28 March 1991	CHEM/AC.26/2
Meeting of Experts on the Periodic Survey of the Chemical Industry Chairman: Mr. A. Sieber (Switzerland)	16th session 1-2 October 1990	CHEM/GE.1/26
Seminar on Changes in Eastern Chemical Markets - the Role of Joint Ventures, Wholly-owned Subsidiaries and Industry Federations Chairman: Mr. E. Grzywa (Poland) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. T. Baker (United Kingdom) Mr. F. Snichelotto (CEFIC)	12-14 December 1990 Warsaw (Poland)	CHEM/SEM.19/4
B. Engineering industries and automation		
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation Chairman: Mr. S. Dekany (Hungary) Vice-Chairman: Ms. J. Ory (France)	11th session 20-22 February 1991	ECE/ENG.AUT/46
Meeting on Questions of Statistics concerning Engineering Industries and Automation Chairman: Mrs. I. Platonova (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. G.S. Sangha (Germany)	12th meeting 15-17 October 1990	ENG.AUT/AC.1/20
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Food Processing Machinery, including Packaging Techniques Chairman: Ms. S. Grozdanova (Bulgaria) Vice-Chairman: Mr. E. Juul Jorgensen (Denmark)	2nd Meeting 16, 17 & 19 October 1990	ENG.AUT/AC.13/6
Workshop on Rehabilitation Engineering: REHAB-1 Chairman: Mr. R.A. Foulds (United States) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. T. Bougie (Netherlands) Mr. A. Skorokhvatov (USSR)	1st Meeting 14-16 June 1990 Washington DC (USA)	ENG.AUT/AC.14/4
Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on New Materials and their Application in Engineering Industries Chairman: Mr. V. Solovei (Ukrainian SSR)	18-19 October 1990	ENG.AUT/AC.16/2

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Seminar on Air Pollution Control in Engineering Industries	12-16 November 1990 Geneva (Switzerland)	ENG.AUT/SEM.9/3
Chairman: Mr. S. Arioli (Switzerland) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. P. Woods (United Kingdom) Mr. N. Vasilchenko (USSR)		

C. Standardization

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies	11th Meeting 7-11 May 1990	ECE/STAND/32
Chairman: Mr. J. Schoenermark (German Democratic Republic) Vice-Chairman: Mr. S.A. Warshaw (United States)		
Seminar on International Standards for Environmental Protection	9 May 1990	ECE/STAND/32
Chairman: Ms. V. Norden (Finland) Vice-Chairman: Mrs. V. Horakova (Czechoslovakia)		

C. Steel

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Steel Committee	58th session 24-26 October 1990	ECE/STEEL/72
Chairman: Mr. A. Signora (France) Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. Burnik (Yugoslavia)		
Meeting of Experts on the Steel Market	29th session 21-22 June 1990	STEEL/GE.4/6
Chairman: Mr. J. Ghislain (Belgium) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V.S. Olephir (USSR)		
Meeting of Experts on Steel Statistics	19th session 20 & 22 June 1990	STEEL/GE.5/4
Chairman: Mr. E. Ruist (Sweden) Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Negulici (Romania)		
Seminar on the Technical and Economic Aspects of the Manufacture and Application of Coated Steel Products	7-11 May 1990 Genoa (Italy)	STEEL/SEM.16/3
Chairman: Mr. M. Lupo (Italy) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. P. Borchgraeve (Belgium) Mr. V. Lipodaev (Ukrainian SSR) Mr. A. Pittini (Italy) Mr. P. Brozzo (Italy)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Producers' and Users' Metallurgical Requirements in the Welding of Steel Products	1st meeting 18-19 June 1990	STEEL/SEM.17/AC/2
Chairman: Mr. V. Lipodaev (Ukrainian SSR)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES		
Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments *Chairman:* Mr. K.E. Johansen (Norway) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. R. Szuniewicz (Poland)	26th session 28 May - 1 June 1990	ECE/EC.AD/36
Ad hoc Meeting on International Trade and Structural Changes *Chairman:* Mr. R. Szuniewicz (Poland) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. M.E. Bailey (Canada)	26-28 March 1991	EC.AD/AC.8/2
Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics *Chairman:* Mr. J. Arski (USSR) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. P. Schreiner (Norway)	1st session 21-23 January 1991	EC.AD/WG.1/2 ENVWA/WG.2/2
Seminar on Personal and Collective Services *Chairman:* Mr. B. van Hamel (Netherlands) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. J. Lamel (Austria)	9-12 October 1990 The Hague (Netherlands)	EC.AD/SEM.12/2
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (INCLUDING FORESTRY PRODUCTS) A. *Agriculture*		
Committee on Agricultural Problems *Chairman:* Mr. R. Prieto (Spain) *Vice-Chairmen:* Mr. H. Redl (Austria) Mr. S. Gburczyk (Poland)	42nd session 4-7 March 1991	ECE/AGRI/112
Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce *Chairman:* Mr. K. Hirsch (Germany) *Vice-Chairmen:* Mr. F. Morawski (Poland) Mr. M. Dokuzoguz (Turkey)	46th session 5-8 November 1990	AGRI/WP.1/54
Meeting of Experts on Coordination of Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables *Chairman:* Mr. J.P. Blakey (United Kingdom) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. M. Vilchez-Barros (Spain)	36th session 3-6 July 1990	AGRI/WP.1/GE.1/36
Meeting of Experts on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce *Chairman:* Mr. K. Hirsch (Federal Republic of Germany) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. F. Monastra (Italy)	37th session 30 April-3 May 1990	AGRI/WP.1/GE.2/44

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Joint ECE/Codex Alimentarius Meeting of Experts on Standardization of Fruit Juices Chairman: Mr. W. Pilnik (Netherlands)	19th session 12-16 November 1990 FAO, Rome (Italy)	AGRI/WP.1/GE.4/19
Meeting of Experts on Standardization of Seed Potatoes Chairman: Mr. T.D. Hall (United Kingdom) Vice-Chairmen: Mrs. M. Chrzanowska (Poland) Mr. B. Borrel (Canada)	25th session 25-29 June 1990 Warsaw (Poland)	AGRI/WP.1/GE.6/22
Meeting of Experts on Standardization of Porcine and Bovine Meat Chairman: Mr. C. Barel (Netherlands)	1st session 8-12 October 1990	AGRI/WP.1/GE.11/2
FAO/ECE Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture Chairman: Mr. V. Starikov (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. R.L. de Vries (Netherlands)	36th session 3-5 September 1990	FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/103
Symposium on the Use of Computers in Agriculture Chairman: Mr. D. Lauf (Germany) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. H.-G. Lehmann (Germany) Mr. A. Mangstl (Germany) Mrs. Z. Konradova (Czechoslovakia) Mr. B. Ohlmér (Sweden) Mr. R. van Schie (Netherlands)	15-19 October 1990 Leipzig (Germany)	AGRI/SEM.27/2
Seminar on Methods and Concepts for the Use of Organic and Chemical Fertilizers Chairman: Mr. J.M. Besson (Switzerland) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J.R. Archer (United Kingdom)	14-17 January 1991	AGRI/SEM.28/2

B. Timber

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Timber Committee Chairman: Mr. H. van der Meiden (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. E. Moskov (Bulgaria)	48th session 8-12 October 1990	ECE/TIM/54
Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Technology, Management and Training Chairman: Mr. E. Lammerts van Bueren (Netherlands) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. J. Gadant (France) Mr. P. Harstela (Finland)	2-4 July 1990 Munich (Federal Republic of Germany)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/20

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Seminar on Forest Site Conservation and Improvement for Sustained Yield *Chairman:* Mr. H. Höfle (Federal Republic of Germany) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. V. Korobov (USSR)	26-30 June 1990 Munich (Federal Republic of Germany)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.32/2
Seminar on the Use of Pesticides in Forestry *Chairman:* Mr. D.A. Bardy (United Kingdom)	10-14 September 1990 Sparsholt (United Kingdom)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.33/2
ENVIRONMENT		
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems *Chairman:* Mr. K. Bärlund (Finland) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. V.G. Sokolovsky (USSR)	4th session 25 February - 1 March 1991 Espoo (Finland)	ECE/ENVWA/18
Ad hoc Working Group to Elaborate a Draft Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context *Chairman:* Mr. R.G. Connelly (Canada) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. O. Kolbasov (USSR)	5th meeting 11-15 June 1990	ENVWA/AC.3/10
	6th meeting 24-28 September 1990	ENVWA/AC.3/12
Ad hoc Meeting on Flora and Fauna *Chairman:* Mr. T. Gurpinar (Turkey) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. E. Jaakkola (Finland)	10-13 December 1990 Antalya (Turkey)	ENVWA/AC.6/2
Working Group to Elaborate a Draft Convention on the Transboundary Impacts of Industrial Accidents *Chairman:* Mr. P. Woltner (France) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. S. Bourtsev (USSR)	1st session 5-8 June 1990 Brussels (Belgium)	ENVWA/WG.1/2
	2nd session 29 October - 2 November 1990	ENVWA/WG.1/4
	3rd session 7-11 January 1991	ENVWA/WG.1/6
Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics *Chairman:* Mr. J. Arski (USSR) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. P. Schreiner (Norway)	1st session 21-23 January 1991	ENVWA/WG.2/2 EC.AD/WG.1/2
Working Party on Air Pollution Problems *Chairman:* Mr. A. Apling (United Kingdom) *Vice-Chairman:* Mr. J. Kurfurst (Czechoslovakia)	19th session 27-29 June 1990	ENVWA/WP.1/6

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Water Problems	1st special session 7-10 May 1990	ENVWA/WP.3/7
Chairman: Mr. B. Natov (Bulgaria) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J.E.M. Deniel (France)		
Chairman: Mr. V. Sakharov (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J.E.M. Deniel (France)	2nd special session 5-9 November 1990	ENVWA/WP.3/10
Chairman: Mr. H. van Schouwenburg (Netherlands)	4th session 8-9 November 1990	ENVWA/WP.3/11
Chairman: Mr. V. Sakharov (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. W. Kittinger (Austria)	3rd special session 14-18 January 1991	ENVWA/WP.3/13
Seminar on Waste-Water Management	21-25 May 1990 Munich (Federal Republic of Germany)	ENVWA/SEM.4/3
Chairman: Mr. O. Malek (Federal Republic of Germany) Vice-Chairman: Mr. I.A. Liakh (Ukrainian SSR)		
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS		
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning	51st session 11-14 September 1990	ECE/HBP/80
Chairman: Mr. J.M. Alves de Souza (Portugal) Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. Staynov (Bulgaria)		
Working Party on Housing	16th session 11-14 June 1990	HBP/WP.1/27
Chairman: Mr. N. Karadimov (Bulgaria) Vice-Chairman: Mr. P. Brown (Canada)		
Working Party on Building	20th session 14-16 November 1990	HBP/WP.2/32
Chairman: Mr. J. Cermak (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Castrillo Canda (Spain)		
Working Party on Urban and Regional Planning and Research	2nd session 4-7 December 1990	HBP/WP.4/4
Chairman: Mr. U. Christiansen (Denmark) Vice-Chairman: Ms. T. Gunay (Turkey)		
Seminar on Distributional Aspects of Housing and Taxation Policies	15-19 October 1990 Karlskrona (Sweden)	HBP/SEM.44/2
Chairman: Mr. G. Blucher (Sweden) Vice-Chairman: Mr. N. Karadimov (Bulgaria)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE		
Committee on the Development of Trade	39th session 3-5 December 1990	ECE/TRADE/173
Chairman: Mr. J. Kaczurba (Poland)		
Vice-Chairman: Mr. W. van Ditmars (Netherlands)		
Special Meeting of Experts on the Impact of East-West Compensation Trade on Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises in the ECE Region	2-4 May 1990	TRADE/AC.24/2
Chairman: Mr. J. Cresson (France)		
Vice-Chairman: Mr. Y. Erschov (USSR)		
Meeting on Disparities in Foreign Trade Statistics	12-13 November 1990	TRADE/AC.25/2 CES/AC.45/8
Chairman: Ms. M.F. Rivet (France)		
Vice-Chairman: Mr. R. Kuhner (Eurostat)		
Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures	32nd session 18-21 September 1990	TRADE/WP.4/173
Chairman: Mr. V. David (Czechoslovakia)	33rd session 12-15 March 1991	TRADE/WP.4/175
Meeting of Experts on Data Elements and Automatic Data Interchange	42nd session 19-20 September 1990	TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/81
Chairman: Mr. E. Dreyfous (France)	43rd session 13-14 March 1991	TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/83
Meeting of Experts on Procedures and Documentation	42nd session 18 September 1990	TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/81
Chairman: Mr. R. Dale (United Kingdom)		
	43rd session 12 March 1991	TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/83
Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry	36th session 25-27 June 1990	TRADE/WP.5/34
Chairman: Mr. G. Willma (German Democratic Republic)		
Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. Stein (United States)		
and		
Chairman: Mr. D. Stein (United States)		
Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Martynov (USSR)		
Chairman: Mr. D. Stein (United States)	37th session 26-28 November 1990	TRADE/WP.5/36
Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Martynov (USSR)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
ENERGY		
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy Chairman: Mr. L. Bohal (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. B. Judin (Yugoslavia)	7th session 29 October- 1 November 1990	ECE/ENERGY/15
Ad hoc Meeting on Energy Efficiency 2000 Chairman: Mr. B. Devin (France) Vice-Chairman: Mr. L. Lengyel (Hungary)	29-31 January 1991	ENERGY/AC.11/2
Coal		
Coal Committee Chairman: Mr. J. Lambotte (France) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Kidybinski (Poland)	86th session 25-28 September 1990	ECE/COAL/121
Task Force on the Elaboration of an International Classification of Seam Coals Chairman: Mr. M. Lemos de Sousa (Portugal) Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Z. Chruseiel (Poland)	1st meeting 19-21 November 1990	COAL/AC.5/18
Ad hoc Meeting on the Classification of Rock Bursts and Sudden Outbursts in Underground Mines Chairman: Mr. P. Knoll (Germany)	1st meeting 15-17 January 1991	ENERGY/WP.1/AC.6/2
Working Party on Coal Trade and Coal Statistics Chairman: Mr. K. Moffitt (United Kingdom) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Sukhov (USSR)	4th session 28-30 May 1990 Katowice (Poland)	COAL/WP.1/62
Meeting of Experts on Opencast Mines Chairman: Mr. R. Proctor (United Kingdom) Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Podgorny (USSR)	8th session 7-11 May 1990 Belgrade (Yugoslavia)	COAL/GE.5/16
Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on Environmental Protection of Opencast Mining Areas Chairman: Mr. R. Proctor (United Kingdom)	10 December 1990	COAL/SEM.11/AC/2
Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on Rock Bursts and Sudden Outbursts in Underground Mines: Theory, Forecasting, Prevention and Protection of Miners Chairman: Mr. A. Orlov (USSR)	14 January 1991	ENERGY/WP.1/SEM.12/ AC/2

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Electric Power		
Working Party on Electric Power Chairman: Mrs. R. Kemper (Germany) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Pilatowicz (Poland)	1st session 4-6 February 1991	ENERGY/WP.2/1
Meeting of Experts on Problems of Planning and Operating Large Power Systems Chairman: Mr. C. Olsson (Sweden) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Vyskócil (Czechoslovakia)	22nd session 14-15 May 1990	EP/GE.2/36
Meeting of Experts on Electric Power Stations Chairman: Mr. P. Reeh (Germany) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Rakowski (Poland)	21st session 1-3 October 1990	EP/GE.3/36
Meeting of Experts on the Relationship between Electricity and the Environment Chairman: Mr. G.W. Barrett (United Kingdom) Vice-Chairman: Mr. L. Pinko (Poland)	19th session 3-5 October 1990	EP/GE.4/36
Joint Meeting of Experts on Electric Power Stations and Experts on the Relationship between Electricity and the Environment Chairman: Mr. P. Reeh (Germany)	3 October 1990	EP/GE.3/AC/2 EP/GE.4/AC/3
Seminar on the Rational Use of Electricity Chairman: Mr. R. Zane (Romania)	7-9 November 1990 Iassi (Romania)	EP/SEM.15/2
Gas		
Working Party on Gas Chairman: Mr. L. Wappel (Hungary) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Elgström Garcia (Spain)	1st session 21-23 January 1991	ENERGY/WP.3/1
Preparatory Meeting on the Study of Interconnections and Extension of Gas Networks in Europe Chairman: Mr. Ch. Carouge (France) Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Kaczmarczyk (Poland)	7-8 June 1990	GAS/AC.8/2
Meeting of Experts on the Use and Distribution of Gas Chairman: Mr. V. Vershinsky (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. Bernardet (France)	21st session 10-12 September 1990	GAS/GE.2/36

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting of Experts on the Transport and Storage of Gas Chairman: Mr. G. Ritzmann (Federal Republic of Germany) Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Pierkarski (Poland)	21st session 12-14 September 1990	GAS/GE.3/36
Meeting of Experts on Natural Gas Resources Chairman: Mr. H.A. van Adrichem Boogaert (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Ermakov (USSR)	13th session 1-2 October 1990	GAS/GE.4/26
Symposium on the Use of Computers for Gas Transmission and Distribution Systems Chairman: Mr. L. Wappel (Hungary) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Marinetti (Italy)	17-19 October 1990 Budapest (Hungary)	GAS/SEM.14/2

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology Chairman: Mr. H. Eberling (German Democratic Republic) Vice-Chairman: Mr. G. Kint (Belgium)	18th session 17-20 September 1990	ECE/SC.TECH/39
Seminar on the Role of Long-term Forecasting in the Formulation of Science and Technology Policies Chairman: Mr. I. Fucík (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. H. Durand (France)	8-12 October 1990 Prague (Czechoslovakia)	SC.TECH/SEM.18/2

TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Inland Transport Committee Chairman: Miss A. Roy (France) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. P. Danjord (Norway) Mr. D. Valásek (Czechoslovakia)	53rd session 28 January - 1 February 1991	ECE/TRANS/85 and Add.1
Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics Chairman: Mr. D. Tsamboulas (Greece) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Peltrám (Czechoslovakia)	3rd session 3-5 October 1990	TRANS/WP.5/6
Working Party on Transport Statistics Chairman: Mr. M. Ledru (France)	41st session 26-28 November 1990	TRANS/WP.6/119 CES/AC.62/65
Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs Chairman: Mr. M. de Clippel (Belgium)	46th session 19-22 November 1990	TRANS/WP.11/182

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	47th session 14-18 May 1990	TRANS/WP.15/115
Chairman: Mr. E. Berson (France) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. J. Myhre (Norway)		
Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the ECE Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	18-28 September 1990	TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/44
Chairman: Mr. W. Visser (Netherlands) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. F. Lohrmann (German Democratic Republic)		
Working Party on Combined Transport	13th session 14-17 May 1990	TRANS/WP.24/47
Chairman: Mr. E. Volk (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport	68th session 5-8 June 1990	TRANS/WP.30/135
Chairman: Mr. F. Hohrmann (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Chairman: Mr. F. Hohrmann (Germany)	69th session 29 October - 2 November 1990	TRANS/WP.30/137
Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975	13th session 1-2 November 1990	TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/27
Chairman: Mr. E. Vanderstede (Belgium) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. J. Fisker (Denmark)		
Principal Working Party on Road Transport	82nd (special) session	TRANS/SC1/342
Chairman: Mr. J. Jinks (United Kingdom) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. L. Tarwid (Poland)	9-11 July 1990	
Chairman: Mr. J. Jinks (United Kingdom)	83rd (special) session 20-23 August 1990	TRANS/SC1/343
Chairman: Mr. J. Jinks (United Kingdom) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. L. Tarwid (Poland)	84th session 5-7 November 1990	TRANS/SC1/346
Ad hoc Meeting on Implementation of the Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)	10th meeting 21 May 1990	TRANS/SC1/AC.5/20
Chairman: Mr. M. Gullon (Spain)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Road Traffic Safety Chairman: Mr. G. Plomteux (Belgium) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Carek (Czechoslovakia)	11th (special) session 30 April - 4 May 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP.1/23
	12th session 28 May - 1 June 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP.1/24
	13th session 26-30 November 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP.1/27
Chairman: Mr. G. Plomteux (Belgium) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J.A. Jenssen (Norway)	14th session 11-15 February 1991	TRANS/SC1/WP.1/29
Working Party on the Construction of Vehicles Chairman: Mr. B. Gauvin (France) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Koutenev (USSR)	91st session 19-22 June 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/282
	92nd session 23-26 October 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/287
Chairman: Mr. V. Koutenev (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	93rd session 12-15 March 1991	TRANS/SC1/WP29/302
Meeting of Experts on Noise Chairman: Mr. R. Stamm (Federal Republic of Germany)	17th session 23-24 August 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRB/15
Meeting of Experts on Lighting and Light-signalling Chairman: Mr. G. Meekel (Netherlands)	24th session 28-31 August 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRE/24
	25th session 4-6 February 1991	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRE/25
Meeting of Experts on Pollution and Energy Chairman: Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	22nd session 23-25 January 1991	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRPE/22
Meeting of Experts on Brakes and Running Gear Chairman: Mr. P. Murphy (United Kingdom)	26th session 20-22 August 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRRF/26
	27th session 20-22 February 1991	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRRF/27
Meeting of Experts on General Safety Provisions Chairman: Mr. A. Perea (Spain)	56th session 21-23 May 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/35
	57th session 10-14 September 1990 Moscow (USSR)	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/36

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting of Experts on General Safety Provisions (cont.) Chairman: Mr. A. Perea (Spain)	58th session 19-22 November 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/37
	59th session 18-19 February 1991	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/38
Meeting of Experts on Passive Safety Chairman: Mr. C. Lomonaco (Italy)	7th session 5-8 June 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSP/7
	8th session 10-14 December 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSP/8
Principal Working Party on Rail Transport Chairman: Mr. A. de Zoete (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. Masikowsky (Poland)	44th session 23-25 October 1990	TRANS/SC2/174
Meeting of Experts on the Development of a European Railway Network	6th session 3-4 September 1990	TRANS/SC2/GE.1/12
Chairman: Mr. J.-P. Baumgartner (Switzerland)	7th session 6-7 March 1991	TRANS/SC2/GE.1/14
Principal Working Party on Inland Water Transport Chairman: Miss C. Vanluchêne (Belgium) Vice-Chairman: Mr. I. Valkar (Hungary)	34th session 12-14 November 1990	TRANS/SC3/126
Working Party on the Standardization of Technical Requirements for Vessels and of Ship's Papers Chairman: Mr. D. Anissine (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Miss C. Vanluchêne (Belgium)	5th session 14-16 August 1990	TRANS/SC3/WP.1/10
Working Party on the Standardization of Rules of the Road and Signs and Signals in Inland Navigation Chairman: Mr. H. van Doorn (Netherlands)	5th session 3-5 September 1990	TRANS/SC3/WP.2/10
STATISTICS		
Conference of European Statisticians Chairman: Mr. C. Malaguerra (Switzerland) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. S. Tassev (Bulgaria) Mr. E. Hölder (Federal Republic of Germany) Mr. S. Johansson (Sweden) Mr. N. Borissenko (Ukrainian SSR)	38th plenary session 11-15 June 1990	ECE/CES/36

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting on Disparities in Foreign Trade Statistics Chairman: Ms. M.F. Rivet (France) Vice-Chairman: Mr. R. Kuhner (Eurostat)	12-13 November 1990	CES/AC.45/8 TRADE/AC.25/2
Joint ECE/ILO Meeting on Labour Force Statistics Chairman: Mr. B. Ohman (Sweden) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Keleti (Hungary)	3rd meeting 4-7 February 1991	CES/AC.51/48
Working Party on Transport Statistics Chairman: Mr. M. Ledru (France)	41st session 26-28 November 1990	CES/AC.62/65 TRANS/WP.6/119
Meeting on Statistics of Services Co-Chairmen: Mr. M. Beekman (Netherlands) Mr. M. Lancetti (Eurostat)	18-21 March 1991	CES/AC.67/12
Working Party on Electronic Data Processing Chairman: Mr. B. Sundgren (Sweden) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. J. Olenski (Poland) Mr. M. Podehl (Canada)	22nd session 26 February- 1 March 1991	CES/WP.9/288
Working Party on National Accounts and Balances Chairman: Ms. C.S. Carson (United States) Vice-Chairman: Mr. B. Szybisz (Poland)	15th session 10-13 September 1990	CES/WP.22/106
Seminar on Integrated Statistical Information Systems and Related Matters (ISIS '90) Chairman: Mr. A. Rabenseifer (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. B. Sundgren (Sweden)	14-18 May 1990 Bratislava (Czechoslovakia)	CES/SEM.27/2
Seminar on Demographic and Economic Consequences and Implications of Changing Population Age Structures Chairman: Mr. E.T. Pryor (Canada) Vice-Chairman: Ms. D. Avramov (Yugoslavia)	24-28 September 1990 Ottawa (Canada)	CES/SEM.28/5
Seminar on the Provision of Statistical Services Chairman: Mr. G. Vukovich (Hungary) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. E. Hölder (Germany) Mr. B. Wyznikiewicz (Poland) Mr. S. Johansson (Sweden) Mr. C. Malaguerra (Switzerland)	11-15 March 1991 Budapest (Hungary)	CES/SEM.29/3

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
ECE/UNDP Operational Projects		
Ad hoc Meeting on the Inter-Country Project on International Cooperative Research on Low-calorie Solid Fuel Technology *Chairman*: Mr. Ch. Christov (Bulgaria) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. M. Salgian (Romania)	21-22 May 1990 Varna (Bulgaria)	ECE/UNDP/LCT/33
Executive Technical Experts Committee (ETEC) *Chairman*: Mr. Ch. Christov (Bulgaria) *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. M. Salgian (Romania)	10th meeting 24 May 1990 Varna (Bulgaria)	ECE/UNDP/LCT/34
Task Force of the Statistical Computing Project, Phase 2 *Chairman*: Mr. B. Sundgren (Sweden)	8th meeting 12-13 November 1990 Prague (Czechoslovakia)	ECE/UNDP/SCP2/TF8
Steering Committee of the Statistical Computing Project, Phase 2 *Chairman*: Mr. B. Sundgren (Sweden)	4th meeting 14-16 November 1990 Prague (Czechoslovakia)	ECE/UNDP/SCP2/SC-4

ANNEX III

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. LIST OF MAJOR ECE STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS, 1990/91

NOTE: The language versions issued are indicated by the following abbreviations: E, English; F, French; R, Russian; E/F, bilingual (English/French); E/F/R, trilingual (English/French/Russian); *, published for the United Nations by external publishers, as indicated.

GENERAL

Annual Report of the ECE to the ECOSOC, 22 April 1989 - 27 April 1990, Supplement No. 12 (E/1990/41-E/ECE/1224 + Add.1)	E F R
Economic Survey of Europe in 1989-1990 (Sales No. 90.II.E.1)	E F R
Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 42/90 (Sales No. 90.II.E.37)	E F R

AGRICULTURE

UN/ECE Standard for Eggs-in-Shell - Explanatory Brochure (ECE/AGRI/105) (Sales No. 90.II.E.10)	E F R
Prices of Agricultural Products and Selected Inputs in Europe and North America, 1988/89: Annual ECE/FAO Price Review No. 39 (ECE/AGRI/109) (Sales No. 90.II.E.5)	E F R

Agricultural Review for Europe No. 32, 1988 and 1989 (ECE/AGRI/110):

Vol. I:	General Review (Sales No. 90.II.E.23)	E F R
Vol. II:	Agricultural Trade (Sales No. 90.II.E.24)	E F R
Vol. III:	The Grain Market (Sales No. 90.II.E.25)	E F R
Vol. IV:	The Livestock and Meat Market (Sales No. 90.II.E.26)	E F R
Vol. V:	The Milk and Dairy Products Market (Sales No. 90.II.E.27)	E F R

AGRI/MECH Reports:

No. 124:	Equipment and Methods for the Production of Protein Crops, especially Grain Legumes (field and soya beans, fodder peas and lupins) (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/101)	E F R
No. 125:	Situation and Future Use of New and Renewable Sources of Energy in Agriculture (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/104)	E F R
No. 126:	System of Testing Agricultural Machinery (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/105)	E F R

TIMBER

Forest Fire Statistics, 1985-1988 (ECE/TIM/51)	E F R
Timber Trends and Prospects for North America (ECE/TIM/53) (Sales No. 90.II.E.4)	E F R
Conversion Factors (Raw Material/Product) for Forest Products, 1987 (ECE/TIM/55)	E/F

Periodic Bulletins

Timber Bulletin, Vol. XLII

No. 2:	Survey of Medium-term Trends for Wood Raw Material, notably Pulpwood, and Wood for Energy	E F R

Timber Bulletin, Vol. XLIII

No. 2:	Special issue: Survey of the Structure and Capacity of the Wood-based Panels Industries, 1989	E F R
No. 3:	Monthly Prices for Forest Products	E/F
No. 4:	Forest Products Statistics, 1985-1989	E/F
No. 5:	Annual Forest Products Market Review, 1989-1990	E F R
No. 6:	Forest Products Trade Flow Data, 1988-1989	E/F
No. 7:	Monthly Prices for Forest Products	E/F
No. 8:	Forest Products Markets in 1990 and Prospects for 1991	E/F
No. 9:	Forest Products Statistics, 1985 - June 1990	E/F

ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER PROBLEMS

Code of Conduct on Accidental Pollution of Transboundary Inland Waters (E/ECE/1225-ECE/ENVWA/16) (Sales No. 90.II.E.28)	E F R

Environmental Series:

No. 3:	Post-project Analysis in Environmental Impact Assessment (ECE/ENVWA/11) (Sales No. 90.II.E.6)	E F R
No. 4:	Policies and Systems for Environmental Impact (ECE/ENVWA/15) (Sales No. 90.II.E.36)	E F R

Air Pollution Studies

No. 6:	The State of Transboundary Air Pollution - 1989 Update (ECE/EB.AIR/25) (Sales No. 90.II.E.33)	E F R
No. 7:	Assessment of Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/26) (Sales No. 91.II.E.18)	E F R

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Directory of Bodies Concerned with Urban and Regional Research (ECE/HBP/50) (Sales No. 90.II.E.32)	E F R
Trends in Research on Human Settlements in ECE Countries (ECE/HBP/77) (Sales No. 90.II.E.9)	E F R
Rent Policy in ECE Countries - Synthesis report on the Seminar held in Amsterdam (Netherlands), 27-31 October 1986 (ECE/HBP/78) (Sales No. 90.II.E.29)	E F R
ECE Compendium of Model Provisions for Building Regulations - Residential Buildings (ECE/HBP/81) (Sales No. 90.II.E.40)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe, 1989, Vol. XXXIII (Sales No. 90.II.E.18)	E/F/R

TRADE

International Counterpurchase Contracts (ECE/TRADE/169) (Sales No. 90.II.E.3)	E F R
Freight Cost Code - FCC: Harmonization of the Description of Freight Costs and Other Charges - Recommendation No. 23 (ECE/TRADE/170)	E F R
Abbreviations of INCOTERMS - Alphabetic Code for INCOTERMS 1990 - Recommendation No. 5, second edition (ECE/TRADE/171)	E F R
International Buy-back Contracts (ECE/TRADE/176) (Sales No. 90.II.E.35)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Trade Facilitation - Trade Data Elements Directory: UNTDED 1990 (ECE/TRADE/TDED(90)) (Sales No. 90.II.E.8)	E only

ENERGY

Information on Institutes Concerned with Nitrogen Oxide Reduction and Research (ECE/GAS/98)	E F R
Climate Extremes and Weather/Climate Information in the United States Natural Gas Industry: Climate Variability, Marketing Structure, Change and Risk Aversion (ECE/GAS/99)	E F R

ECE Energy Series:

No. 3:	Underground Storage of Natural Gas and LPG (Sales No. E.90.0.7)	E *
No. 4:	Optimum Use of Primary Energy Resources (Sales No. E.90.0.8)	E *
No. 5:	Clean Combustion of Brown Coal and Lignite (Sales No. E.90.0.9)	E *
No. 6:	Sustainable Energy Developments in Europe and North America (ECE/ENERGY/16) (Sales No. 91.II.E.2)	E F R
No. 7:	Energy Reforms in Central and Eastern Europe - The First Year (Sales No. 91.II.E.17)	E *

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of General Energy Statistics for Europe, 1988, Vol. XXI (Sales No. 90.II.E.12)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe, 1990, Vol. XXXV (Sales No. 90.II.E.19)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Gas Statistics for Europe, 1989, Vol. XXXV (Sales No. 90.II.E.14)	E/F/R

TRANSPORT

Convention on Civil Liability for Damage Caused During Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, Rail and Inland Navigation Vessels (CRTD) - Explanatory Report (ECE/TRANS/84) (Sales No. 90.II.E.39)	E F R
European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installation (AGTC), done at Geneva on 1 February 1991 (ECE/TRANS/88)	E/F/R
The TIR Transit System (ECE/TRANS/TIR/2) (Sales No. 91.VIII.1)	E F R
Transport Information - 1990 (TRANS/INFO/90/1) (Sales No. 90.II.E.30)	E F R
Europe's Railway of the '90s - A white paper (TRANS/SC2/172)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe, 1988, Vol. XL (Sales No. 89.II.E.6)	E/F/R
Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe, 1991, Vol. XXXVI (Sales No. 91.II.E.16)	E/F/R

STATISTICS

Statistical Indicators of Short-term Economic Changes in ECE Countries, 1990, Nos. 5-12	E only
Statistical Indicators of Short-term Economic Changes in ECE Countries, 1991, Nos. 1-4	E only

Periodic Bulletins

Statistical Journal, Vol. 6, No. 4 (International Organizations Services, B.V.)	E *
Statistical Journal, Vol. 7, Nos. 1-3 (International Organizations Services, B.V.)	E *

CHEMICALS

Annual Review of the Chemical Industry, 1988 (ECE/CHEM/75) (Sales No. 90.II.E.7)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products, 1988, Vol. XV (Sales No. 90.II.E.31)	E/F/R

ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

Annual Review of Engineering Industries and Automation, 1989: Vol. I and II (ECE/ENG.AUT/44) (Sales No. 90.II.E.38)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in Engineering Products, 1988 (Sales No. 90.II.E.20)	E/F/R

STEEL

The Recuperation of Economic Utilization of By-products of the Iron and Steel Industry (ECE/STEEL/68) (Sales No. 90.II.E.13)	E F R
The Steel Market in 1989 (ECE/STEEL/70) (Sales No. 90.II.E.34)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Statistics of World Trade in Steel, 1989 (Sales No. 90.II.E.17)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1989, Vol. XVII (Sales No. 90.II.E.16)	E/F/R

B. LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION AT ITS FORTY-SIXTH SESSION

Provisional agenda	E/ECE/1227 + Add.1
The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1990	/1228
Co-operation and co-ordination of activities with other international organizations	/1229
Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly	/1230
Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries	/1231
The work of the Commission concerning economies in transition in eastern and central Europe	/1232
Climate change	/1233
Statistical activities	/1234
ECE's contribution to the implementation of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, including Earthquake Prediction	/1235
The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development	/1236
Co-operation in the field of environmental protection and water resources and in the field of long-range transboundary air pollution	/1237
Co-operation in the field of transport	/1238
Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE	/1239
Standardization and related activities	/1240
Engineering industries and automation	/1241
The activities of the Economic Commission for Europe	/1242
Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe	/1243
The future work and activities of the Commission and proposals in regard to all-European co-operation, particularly in priority sectors, priority tasks, general priorities and guiding principles	/1244
Programme of work for 1991-1995	/1245
Joint communiqué of the Meeting of the Energy Ministers of the Balkan States, Tirana (Albania), 29-30 May 1990	/1246

Reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission

Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments	ECE/EC.AD/36
Committee on Agriculture (formerly Committee on Agricultural Problems)	ECE/AGRI/112
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/54
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems	ECE/ENVWA/18
Committee on Human Settlements (formerly Committee on Housing, Building and Planning)	ECE/HBP/80
Committee on the Development of Trade	ECE/TRADE/173
Committee on Energy (formerly Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy)	ECE/ENERGY/15
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH./39
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/85 + Add.1
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/36

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Reports of other subsidiary bodies

Working Party on Coal (formerly Coal Committee)	ECE/COAL/121
Working Party on Electric Power	ENERGY/WP.2/1
Working Party on Gas	ENERGY/WP.3/1
Working Party on the Chemical Industry (formerly Chemical Industry Committee)	ECE/CHEM/77
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation	ECE/ENG.AUT/46
Working Party on Standardization Policies (formerly Meetings of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies)	ECE/STAND/32
Working Party on Steel (formerly Steel Committee)	ECE/STEEL/72

ANNEX IV

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1991-1995

Introduction

The programme of work is divided into the following programme categories:

CATEGORY	SUB-PROGRAMME
00	Policy and coordination of the work of the Commission
01	Development issues and policies
02	Food and agriculture (including forestry products)
	A. Agriculture
	B. Timber
03	Environment
04	Human settlements
05	Industrial development
	A. Chemicals *
	B. Engineering industries and automation *
	C. Standardization *
	D. Steel *
06	International trade and development finance
	A. Trade facilitation
	B. Trade
07	Energy
08	Science and technology
09	Transport, communications and tourism
10	Statistics

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* Activities in these areas are carried out by Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission.

SUB-PROGRAMME 00 - POLICY AND COORDINATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.1: ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE AND PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

00.1.1 Review and guidance of the activities of the Commission as a whole: evaluation, coordination and formulation of the programme of work

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will consider its work as a whole; review and evaluate its own activity as well as that of its subsidiary bodies; guide the policy orientation, coordination and planning of the work carried out by the subsidiary bodies under its auspices; and formulate and approve its programme of work.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission performs this function with the assistance of its Sessional Committee as appropriate, by considering at its annual sessions the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their work and the Executive Secretary's reports on the implementation of its relevant resolutions and decisions. The Commission considers and approves annually its programme of work for the following year and endorses in principle, subject to review at the following session, its long-term programme of work covering the next five years. The policy guidance given by the Commission, including measures for coordination, concentration and integration of all activities carried out under the Commission's auspices, is embodied in its resolutions and other decisions to be implemented, as appropriate, by member Governments, by the Commission's subsidiary bodies and by its secretariat.

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.2 The work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities

Description: The Commission, in its decision A (45), stressed the importance of the political and economic reforms, and the profound and rapid changes taking place in countries members of ECE. A Special Working Group was set up to make relevant recommendations for decision to a resumed forty-fifth session in December 1990.

In its decision O (45) adopted at that resumed session, the Commission decided on the following priority areas of activity: environment, transport, statistics, trade facilitation, and economic analysis. It also decided on practical measures in these priority areas and on the broad outlines of work in sectors not identified as priorities, in order to promote the process of economic reform and integrating the economies in transition with the global economy. The Commission also agreed on a series of measures on the methods of work, the structure and the resources of the Commission.

Work to be undertaken: In its decision A (46), the Commission requested its subsidiary bodies to carry out without delay the provisions of decision O (45) when reviewing and carrying out their programmes of work, and requested also the Executive Secretary to implement the provisions of that decision where the secretariat is concerned.

The Commission requested its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their work the pertinent provisions of the relevant CSCE documents which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the ECE; and requested the Executive Secretary to report if invited to do so to ensure that all relevant meetings of the CSCE are fully apprised of the relevant activities of the ECE.

It recalled that in accordance with decision O (45) account should be taken of the impact that ECE activities in sectors not identified as priorities, such as energy, have on priority sectors.

It approved its programme of work for 1991-1992 and endorsed in principle, subject to review at its forty-seventh session, its programme of work for 1991-1995.

The provisions of decision A (46) and the other decisions adopted by the Commission at its forty-sixth session will be drawn to the attention of the pertinent subsidiary bodies for appropriate action, and reports on the implementation of these decisions will be prepared for consideration by the Commission at its forty-seventh session.

Duration: One year (1991/1992)

00.1.3 The work of the Commission concerning economies in transition in eastern and central Europe

Description: Taking into account the fact that the recent and current developments in Europe modify the characteristics and functioning of the societies and economies of countries of the region, the Commission, in its decision D (45), considered that in view of its composition and the nature of the cooperation which it implements it had a role to play in assisting the transition to market economies.

In its decision O (45) the Commission noted that work in its five priority sectors contributed significantly to promoting reform and integration or reintegration of the economies in transition with the economies of the ECE region and therefore with the global economy. It decided, in order to promote the process of economic reform, on broad outlines of work in sectors not identified as priorities, and determined that the primary work methods employed to address transition issues should be workshops and other similar informal fora.

Work accomplished: In accordance with decision D (45) the Senior Economic Advisers discussed practical themes for workshops to be proposed to Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned, and prepared a list of themes as a basis for the selection of topics that might be considered in a workshop. Further possible themes for workshops were identified in decision O (45). Since the forty-fifth session 13 workshops were held and preparations were under way for a further 30. The Principal Subsidiary Bodies at their meetings during the year reviewed their programmes and methods of work to permit a rapid and effective response to the needs of the economies in transition. These activities were carried out in close collaboration with the international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in particular those identified in decisions D (45) and O (45).

Work to be undertaken: In its decision B (46), the Commission reaffirmed the need for high-quality observation and analysis of the development of economies in the region, and in particular in central and eastern Europe, in order to promote the process of economic reform and to integrate the economies in transition with the global economy. Analytical work on the transition process, including internal and external conditions, should continue to be accorded high priority.

The Commission invited member Governments, the European Community and competent international institutions to participate actively in transition-related activities, and encouraged them to consider providing continued assistance, on a bilateral or multilateral basis, for promoting such activities.

It recalled its recommendation that close cooperation be established with the European Community and with other international institutions dealing with the same issues of economic research and analysis, to facilitate the process of transition of countries of central and eastern Europe to a market economy. It requested the Executive Secretary to inform promptly the Governments and competent organizations and to report to the Senior Economic Advisers in May 1991 on his consultations to this end.

It requested the Principal Subsidiary Bodies to contribute within their competence to the preparation of practical workshops especially on the transition to market economy, and encouraged the Senior Economic Advisers to devote special attention to the implementation by other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of decision D (45) and to evaluate periodically the impact of such activities; it invited the Governments of central and eastern Europe to submit to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies as soon as possible concrete proposals concerning such projects.

It invited the Executive Secretary to facilitate consultations with interested countries and international institutions in order to provide expertise on programmes of transition to a market economy. (see also sub-programme 01.)

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.4 Institutional arrangements for ECE

Description: In its decision P (45), The Commission requested its Chairman to convene an *ad hoc* informal meeting of the Commission, at least once every three months, with, *inter alia*, the following tasks: (a) to consult on policy matters concerning the activities of the Commission; (b) to assist preparations for the annual sessions of the Commission; (c) to monitor progress in the work programmes of the Commission; (d) to offer any necessary guidance to the Executive Secretary on the work of the Commission.

Work accomplished: The first *ad hoc* Informal Meeting was held on 5 March 1991.

Work to be undertaken: Further *ad hoc* informal meetings will be convened by the Chairman of the Commission in accordance with decision P (45).

Duration: Continuing.

00.1.5 Economic cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

Description: The Commission and its Principal Subsidiary Bodies pay particular attention to projects and activities of interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Final Act and other Concluding Documents of the CSCE.

Work accomplished: As requested in paragraph 4 of resolution 1 (45), the Executive Secretary accepted the invitation to attend the CSCE Meeting on the Mediterranean in Palma de Mallorca in September/October 1990, and made a contribution to that Meeting.

Work to be undertaken: The Commission's subsidiary bodies identify areas of interest, particularly in the field of transport, for economic cooperation in the Mediterranean within the framework of over-all ECE activities and the Commission's programme of work. The Executive Secretary cooperates with the secretariats of ESCWA and ECA and other relevant United Nations bodies and pursues contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries.

Duration: Continuing

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.2: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS, PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS IN THE ECE REGION

00.2.1 Review of economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region.

Work accomplished: The annual economic survey, economic bulletin and other special studies and statistical bulletins prepared and published by the secretariat were made available to the Commission for this annual review.

Work to be undertaken: In its decision B (46), the Commission invited the Senior Economic Advisers and the secretariat, in accordance with the relevant provisions of decision O (45) and having in mind the right and responsibility of the secretariat to exercise independent judgement in its analysis, to deepen their consultations in order to achieve the highest quality of the annual Economic Survey of Europe, notably by improving pre-publication exchange of views; and stressed the need for this Survey to be published in time to enable it to be properly studied and reflected upon during the annual session.(para. 8)

Duration: Continuing

00.2.2 Population

Description: In accordance with the provisions of decision G (40), the Executive Secretary carries out work in the field of population, within existing resources, and maintains collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for the implementation of the relevant recommendations of regional meetings of experts on population convened periodically, but not more than every two years, in cooperation with UNFPA. These meetings aim to provide consultations amongst Governments and the dissemination and exchange of information on population problems and policies in the ECE region.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: Collaboration with UNFPA is maintained through projects dealing, respectively, with economic and social implications of aging, population and development in southern Europe, integration of population and socio-economic policies, migration, and promotion of fertility and family surveys in the ECE region. Funding for these projects is provided by UNFPA.

Duration: Continuing.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.3: RESOLUTIONS BEARING ON THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

00.3.1 Review and follow-up of resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly bearing on the work of the Commission

Description: At its annual sessions, the Commission will review the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly which have a bearing on its work and will decide on the action to be taken by it in the light of the provisions of those resolutions and decisions.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission undertakes this review on the basis of the Executive Secretary's note in which he brings to the Commission's attention the resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission which were adopted by the Economic and Social

Council and by the General Assembly during the period since the previous session of the Commission, and the relevant work under way.

Duration: Continuing.

00.3.2 The Commission's contribution to the follow-up of the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

Description: In accordance with decision J (40) the Executive Secretary will continue to assess developments with respect to the economic role of women in the ECE region in conjunction with other research activities of the secretariat, taking into account the roles and responsibilities of the regional commissions in developing and implementing the system-wide, medium-term plan for women and development and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. By its resolution 1990/12 the Economic and Social Council convened a World Conference on Women in 1995. Work will be undertaken to prepare a regional contribution to the World Conference in 1995.

Work accomplished: The secretariat has undertaken a time use study of women in the ECE region, with the financial support of INSTRAW. The regional commissions, including ECE, have agreed to undertake parallel activities in the field of women in cooperation with INSTRAW. The Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic offered to host in 1994 a regional preparatory meeting for the World Conference.

Work to be undertaken: In accordance with decision H (44) the secretariat will concentrate on an Inventory of the scope and content of time-use/time-budget questionnaires and of time-use studies, and will make this data available to member countries. The secretariat will explore with the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic the possibility of holding the regional preparatory meeting for the World Conference in that country in 1994.

Duration: Continuing.

00.3.3 The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

Description: The Commission welcomed General Assembly resolution 44/227 on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 on the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond and 42/187 on the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED), as well as General Assembly resolution 44/228 on the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. In its decision H (45) the Commission reiterated its call upon its subsidiary bodies actively to promote sustainable development as a guiding principle for all relevant activities of the ECE, and agreed to intensify its efforts towards promoting and achieving sustainable development by integrating environmental concerns and considerations into projects and programmes in all areas.

Work accomplished: The secretariat cooperated with the Government of Norway in the preparations for the regional conference at ministerial level (Bergen, 8-16 May 1990) to review progress in the follow-up of selected aspects of the Report of the WCED. The results of the Bergen Conference were communicated to the appropriate Principal Subsidiary Bodies with a view to consideration of the inclusion of possible new sectoral and cross-sectoral activities in the work programmes of the ECE. A Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics was established to consider relevant parts of the outcome of the Bergen Conference.

Work to be undertaken: In its decision B (46), the Commission noted the results of the Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics and encouraged the Senior Economic Advisers, in coordination with the OECD and the UNCED secretariat, to analyse further the interrelationship between economic activity and the environment, to identify major factors affecting sustainable economic development in the ECE and to study guidelines to achieve such sustainable economic development in the region, taking into account the particular situation of the countries in transition.

In its decision E (46) the Commission welcomed the progress made in developing sectoral and inter-disciplinary activities contributing to sustainable development, in particular the work of the Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics, and invited the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems to intensify their cooperation with other bodies of the Commission.

The Commission invited the Executive Secretary to continue to bring to the attention of the Executive Secretaries of the other regional commissions the ECE activities aimed at contributing to sustainable development and strengthening of international cooperation in this field, and in particular the results and follow-up of the Bergen Conference.

Duration: Five years (1988-1992).

00.3.4 Climate change

Description: In its resolution 43/53 the General Assembly recognized climate change as a common concern of mankind, and called on all relevant organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to support the work of the joint WMO/UNEP Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). In its decision E (45) the Commission welcomed the above resolution, as well as Assembly resolution 44/207.

Work accomplished: The ECE was represented at the sessions of the IPCC and at the Second World Climate Conference in October/November 1990.

Work to be undertaken: In its decision E (46), the Commission expressed its satisfaction that the substantive issues related to climate change had been taken up by a number of Principal Subsidiary Bodies. The Executive Secretary was requested to continue the assessment of the Commission's programmes, activities and discussions bearing on the relationship of human activities and the climate, taking also into account the work and studies of the INC, IPCC, OECD and IAEA.

Duration: Three years (1989/92).

00.3.5 ECE's contribution to the implementation of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, including Earthquake Prediction

Description: In its resolution 44/236, the General Assembly called upon the regional commissions to play an active role in implementing the activities of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.

Work accomplished: Following a discussion of decision G (45) by the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology, the report of the Seminar on the Prediction of Earthquakes held in Lisbon (Portugal) in 1988 was transmitted to the secretariats of the Council of Europe and the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, emphasizing the need for a clear assessment of the work done by the different organizations in this field and the division of labour.

Work to be undertaken: Problems related to construction in seismic regions will be considered within the programme of work of the Committee on Human Settlements.

Duration: Two years (1990-1992).

00.3.6 International cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant

Description: In its decision C (46), the Commission recalled Assembly resolution 45/190 and Council resolution 1990/50, and expressed profound concern about ongoing effects on people's lives and health of the disaster at Chernobyl, which had serious national and international consequences of unprecedented scale. It noted the work being done by the Committees on Timber, Agriculture, and Human Settlements, the Conference of European Statisticians, and the Working Parties on the Chemical Industry and on Engineering Industries and Automation, in exploring the possibilities to elaborate within their competence projects on problems arising from the Chernobyl accident.

Work to be undertaken: The Commission requested these subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in this direction, and invited other subsidiary bodies to examine the possibility of making a contribution to this end. The Executive Secretary was requested to support the efforts of the subsidiary bodies in implementation of Assembly resolution 45/190.

Duration: Continuing

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 00.4: COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

00.4.1 Review of the Commission's cooperation with other United Nations bodies

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review its activities in support of and its contribution to other United Nations programmes, especially those of UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA and INSTRAW, as well as of the other regional commissions. It will also consider matters relating to its cooperation with other United Nations bodies including the specialized agencies such as FAO, ILO, UNESCO, UNIDO and WHO, as well as IAEA. Special attention will be paid to problems of the member countries of the ECE which are developing from the economic point of view as part of the Commission's contribution to the global programmes and objectives of the United Nations aiming at economic development.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission carries out this review annually on the basis of the Executive Secretary's report on the participation of such organizations and programmes in the Commission's work; on the Commission's own contribution to the programmes of these organizations; and on the secretariat's cooperation with the secretariats of these organizations, including the secretariats of the other regional commissions.

Duration: Continuing.

00.4.2 Review of the Commission's cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review its activities related to cooperation and coordination of its activities with other international economic organizations and institutions, and with international non-governmental organizations participating in the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission undertakes this review annually on the basis of the Executive Secretary's report on the relevant activities arising out of the participation of such organizations and their secretariats in, and the contribution they make to, the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

Duration: Continuing.

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SUB-PROGRAMME 01 - DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND POLICIES

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, approved by the Senior Advisers at their twenty-sixth session (ECE/EC.AD/36, paras. 46-53 and Annex I)

Programme activity 01.1: Exchange of information on mediumand long-term economic development

Programme elements

01.1.1 Exchange of information on the medium- and long-term development of national economies
01.1.2 Exchange of information on medium- and long-term plans, programmes and projections

Programme activity 01.2: Long-term projections and perspectives

Programme elements

01.2.1 Growth conditions in the period 1991-1995 and their long-term implications
01.2.2 Specialized long-term macro-economic data base and further development of the SEM system of macro-economic models

Programme activity 01.3: Selected medium- and long-term economic issues

Programme elements

01.3.1 Trends and factors in the development of personal and collective services and their impact on economic growth
01.3.2 International trade and structural changes - interregional and intraregional trends of development
01.3.3 Structural changes in employment, labour productivity and working patterns and their impact on economic growth
01.3.4 Sustainable economic development

SUB-PROGRAMME 02 - FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (INCLUDING FORESTRY PRODUCTS)

02(A) - AGRICULTURE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Agricultural Problems, approved by the Committee at its forty-second session (ECE/AGRI 112, paras. 11-23 and Annex I)

Programme activity 02(A).1: Economic analysis of the agri-food sector

Programme elements

02(A).1.1 Review of agricultural markets and trade (A)
02(A).1.2 Prices and national accounts of agricultural products and inputs (C)
02(A).1.3 Activities of the FAO/ECE Working Party on Economics of the Agri-Food Sector and Farm Management (A)
02(A).1.4 Processing of agricultural products (B)
02(A).1.5 Proteins for human and animal consumption (C)

Programme activity 02(A).2: Agriculture and the environment

Programme elements

02(A).2.1 Management of water resources on the farm and in rural areas (C)
02(A).2.2 Prevention of water and soil pollution from fertilizers and pesticides (B)
02(A).2.3 Relations between environmental protection and the quality of agricultural and food products (A)
02(A).2.4 Impact on the environment of agri-food technology, especially mechanization (B)
02(A).2.5 The specific environmental problems of agriculture in the economies in transition (A)

Programme activity 02(A).3: Standardization of perishable produce and quality developments

Programme elements

02(A).3.1 Standardization of perishable produce (A)
02(A).3.2 Quality of production in the agri-food sector (B)

Programme activity 02(A).4: Food and agricultural statistics

Programme element

02(A).4.1 Cooperative projects related to the introduction of new agricultural statistics in transition countries (A)
02(A).4.2 Development of statistics on agriculture-related environmental problems (A)
02(A).4.3 Supply and demand for agricultural statistics: assessment of methods and practices of publishing and disseminating agricultural statistics (C)
02(A).4.4 Contribution to FAO recommendations for agricultural censuses (C)

SUB-PROGRAMME 02(B) - TIMBER

Authority: Programme of work of the Timber Committee, approved by the Committee at its forty-eighth session (ECE/TIM/54, paras. 54-80 and Annex I)

Programme activity 02(B).1: Medium- and long-term trends, prospects and policies for forestry and forest products

Programme elements
02(B).1.1 Appraisal of long-term timber trends and prospects
02(B).1.2 Medium term trends in industry structure and markets in specific forest products sectors
02(B).1.3 Trends, prospects and policies in forestry and forest products in southern Europe

Programme activity 02(B).2: Current forest products market developments and short-term prospects, including international trade

Programme elements
02(B).2.1 Review of production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products

Programme activity 02(B).3: Forest technology, management and training

Programme elements
02(B).3.1 Silvicultural operations and general management aspects
02(B).3.2 Wood harvesting and transport
02(B).3.3 Vocational training, applied ergonomics, occupational safety and health

Programme activity 02(B).4: Economic, technological and managerial issues for the wood-working industries

Programme elements
02(B).4.1 Development and introduction of new technologies and management methods in the wood-working industries, including furniture
02(B).4.2 Development of new products, markets and applications for forest products
02(B).4.3 Energy conservation and self-sufficiency in the mechanical wood-processing industries
02(B).4.4 Programme of assistance to the economies in transition in eastern and central Europe
02(B).4.5 Competitivity of sawnwood

Programme activity 02(B).5: Environmental and resource conservation issues

Programme elements
02(B).5.1 Quantification and evaluation of the environmental benefits of forests
02(B).5.2 Economic, silvicultural, ecological and technical problems of the rational use of forest biomass
02(B).5.3 Implications of air pollution and other damage to forests for wood supply and markets
02(B).5.4 Information exchange on occurrences of sudden and severe damage to forests
02(B).5.5 Problems in the forestry and forest industry arising from radiation contamination

Programme activity 02(B).6: Forest and forest products economics and statistics

Programme elements
02(B).6.1 Publication of the Timber Bulletin
02(B).6.2 Selected problems of economics and statistics of forestry and forest products
02(B).6.3 Forest resource analysis
02(B).6.4 Transfer of economic and statistical methods and experience in the forest and forest products sector

SUB-PROGRAMME 03 - ENVIRONMENT

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems, approved by the Senior Advisers at their fourth session (ECE/ENVWA/18, paras. 62-68 and Annex III).

Programme activity 03.1: Policy issues

Programme elements

- 03.1.1 Environment and economics (B)
- 03.1.2 Environmental and water statistics (C)
- 03.1.3 Responsibility and liability (B)
- 03.1.4 Environmental rights and obligations (B)
- 03.1.5 Improvement of environmental management in countries with economies in transition (A)
- 03.1.6 Systems for obtaining and exchanging reliable environmental information (B)
- 03.1.7 Bilateral and multilateral financial cooperation of relevance to environmental protection (B)
- 03.1.8 Environmental policy performance reviews (A)

Programme activity 03.2: Environmental impact assessment

Programme elements

- 03.2.1 Interim implementation of the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (A)

Programme activity 03.3: Air pollution problems

Programme elements

- 03.3.1 Information on activities of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (A)
- 03.3.2 Selected issues of air pollution (C)

Programme activity 03.4: Environmental technology and waste management

Programme elements

- 03.4.1 Regional strategies for integrated waste management (A)
- 03.4.2 Evaluation of energy and resource saving technologies in the pulp and paper industry (C)
- 03.4.3 Reduction, replacement, recovery, recycling and re-utilization of industrial wastes (B)
- 03.4.4 Low-waste technology and environmentally sound products (B)
- 03.4.5 Management of hazardous chemicals (A)

Programme activity 03.5: Water management

Programme elements

- 03.5.1 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (A)
- 03.5.2 Ecosystems approach to water management (B)
- 03.5.3 Water-quality objectives and criteria (B)
- 03.5.4 Protection of inland waters against eutrophication (B)
- 03.5.5 Prevention and control of water pollution from fertilizers and pesticides (B)

Programme activity 03.6: Industrial accidents

Programme elements

- 03.6.1 Convention on the Transboundary Impacts of Industrial Accidents (A)

Programme activity 03.7: Flora, fauna and their habitats

Programme elements

- 03.7.1 Assessment of the status of threatened and migratory species in Europe (C)

SUB-PROGRAMME 04 - HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, approved by the Committee at its fifty-first session (ECE/HBP/80, paras. 62-72 and Annex III).

Programme activity 04.1: Integrated settlements policies and strategies

Programme elements

04.1.2	Human settlements situation and related current trends and policies
04.1.2	Comprehensive policies for renewal and modernization of human settlements
04.1.3	Human settlements problems in southern Europe
04.1.4	Planning for sustainable tourism development in the ECE region
04.1.5	Human settlements policies in the context of socio-economic transition
04.1.6	Sustainable development of human settlements

Programme activity 04.2: Urban and regional planning

Programme elements

04.2.1	Promotion of international cooperation in the field of urban and regional research
04.2.3	Planning for recreation and leisure areas
04.2.6	Impact of technological change on urban and regional development (technopoles)

Programme activity 04.3: Housing policies

Programme elements

04.3.1	Housing forecasting and programming
04.3.3	Socio-economic aspects of housing modernization policies
04.3.4	Distributional aspects of housing and taxation policies

Programme activity 04.4: Building

Programme elements

04.4.2	Promotion of energy conservation and a healthy indoor climate in buildings
04.4.3	Promotion of international trade in construction products
04.4.4	International harmonization of the technical content of building regulations
04.4.5	Building pathology and prevention of disorders
04.4.6	Construction in seismic regions

Programme activity 04.5: Human settlements statistics

Programme elements

04.5.1	Development of human settlements statistics

SUB-PROGRAMME 05 - INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

05(A) - CHEMICALS

Authority: Programme of work of the former Chemical Industry Committee, approved by the Committee at its twenty-third session (ECE/CHEM/77, paras. 49-54 and Annex I).

Programme activity 05(A).1: Long- and medium-term trends and prospects for sustainable development in the chemical industry

05(A).1.1 Market trends and outlook for selected chemical products
05(A).1.2 Sustainable development in the chemical and related industries

Programme activity 05(A).2: Statistics and current developments in the chemical industry, including international trade

Programme elements

05(A).2.1 Annual Review of the Chemical Industry
05(A).2.2 Studies of national developments in the chemical industry
05(A).2.3 Development of internationally comparable statistics, including those of specialized products
05(A).2.4 Publication of the Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products

Programme activity 05(A).3: Economic issues and information on the chemical industry including assistance to countries in transition

Programme elements

05(A).3.1 Changes in eastern chemical markets - the role of joint ventures, wholly-owned subsidiaries and industry federations
05(A).3.2 ECE Directory of the Chemical Industry

Programme activity 05(A).4: Environmental and resource issues in the chemical industry

Programme elements

05(A).4.1 The rational use of water and its treatment in the chemical industry
05(A).4.2 Substitutes for tripolyphosphate in detergents
05(A).4.3 Management of plastic wastes in the ECE region

Programme activity 05(A).5: Advanced chemical processes and products

Programme elements

05(A).5.1 Engineering plastics

05(B) - ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation, approved by the Working Party at its eleventh session (ECE/ENG.AUT/46, para. 35 and Annex I)

Programme activity 05(B).1: Current medium- and long-term trends and prospects in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

05(B).1.1	Medium- and long-term assessment of engineering industries within national, regional and global economies (3)
05(B).1.2	Current developments and prospects in the engineering industries and automation, including appropriate aspects of international cooperation in this sector (2)

Programme activity 05(B).2: The role of engineering industries in environmental protection and resource saving

Programme elements

05(B).2.1	Foundry production and ecology (7)
05(B).2.2	Low-waste processes and automated equipment for the production of precision instruments for engineering industries (9)

Programme activity 05(B).3: Special issues in engineering industries and automation of relevance to economies in transition

Programme elements

05(B).3.1	Adjustment of engineering industries in economies in transition (5)

Programme activity 05(B).4: Selected issues in the engineering industries and in automation

Programme elements

05(B).4.1	Food-processing machinery including packaging techniques (8)
05(B).4.2	Rehabilitation engineering (4)
05(B).4.3	New materials and their application in engineering industries (6)

Programme activity 05(B).5: Statistics in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

05(B).5.1	Development of internationally comparable statistics (1)
05(B).5.2	Publication of the Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in Engineering Products (10)

05(C) - STANDARDIZATION

Authority: Programme of work of the former Meetings of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies, approved by the Eleventh Meeting of Government Officials (ECE/STAND/32, paras. 53-54 and Annex).

Programme activity 05(C).1: Coordination

Programme elements

05(C).1.1	Identification of problems
05(C).1.2	Regular guidance for programme of work for international standardization through identification of sectors which are of interest to member Governments
05(C).1.3	Preparation and implementation of recommendations
05(C).1.4	Identification of sectors which could lend themselves to priority preparation of multilateral or bilateral agreements for the recognition of test results and of recommendations to that effect to interested Governments and bodies

Programme activity 05(C).2: Harmonization

Programme elements

05(C).2.1	Review of developments, prospects and problems at the international, regional and national levels
05(C).2.2	Measures to facilitate the implementation of standards and technical regulations
05(C).2.3	Approval of definitions of terms used internationally in the fields of standardization and related activities
05(C).2.4	Presentation of ECE recommended standards and harmonized technical regulations
05(C).2.5	Preparation and implementation of recommendations
05(C).2.6	Measures to facilitate the harmonization of principles and practices of standardization and related activities

Programme activity 05(C).3: Conformity assessment

Programme elements

05(C).3.1	Identification of problems
05(C).3.2	Measures to achieve mutual confidence in the technical competence and reliability of national certification systems
05(C).3.3	Promotion of international certification systems and arrangements
05(C).3.4	Establishment of normative documents related to testing activities and laboratory accreditation
05(C).3.5	Aspects of metrology relevant to testing activities

05(D) - STEEL

Authority: Programme of work of the former Steel Committee, approved by the Committee at its fifty-eighth session (ECE/STEEL/72, paras. 84-88 and Annex 1).

Programme activity 05(D).1: Long-term trends and prospects in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

05(D).1.1 Long-term prospects in the iron and steel industry

Programme activity 05(D).2: Current developments and medium-term prospects in the iron and steel industry, including international trade

Programme elements

05(D).2.1 Short-term developments and prospects in the steel industry and the steel market
05(D).2.2 Studies of national developments in the iron and steel industry

Programme activity 05(D).3: Economic and technological issues in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

05(D).3.1 Producers' and users' metallurgical requirements in the welding of steel products
05(D).3.2 The steel industry in countries in transition towards market economy conditions

Programme activity 05(D).4: Environmental and resource issues in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

05(D).4.1 Protection against air and water pollution
05(D).4.2 Steel product quality and maximum utilization of scrap

Programme activity 05(D).5: Iron and steel statistics

Programme elements

05(D).5.1 Development of steel statistics
05(D).5.2 Publication of steel statistics
05(D).5.3 Statistics on iron and steel scrap

SUB-PROGRAMME 06 - INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, approved by the Committee at its thirty-ninth session (ECE/TRADE/173, para. 26 and Annex).

06(A) - TRADE FACILITATION

Programme activity 06(A).1: International trade procedures and contract practices

Programme elements

06(A).1.1 Facilitation of international trade procedures including documentation, trade data elements and automatic data interchange (1)

06(A).1.2 Preparation and revision of Guides and General Conditions relating to contracts for international commercial transactions (2)

06(B) - TRADE

Programme activity 06(B).1: Analysis and review of recent and prospective trade trends, policies and problems

Programme elements

06(B).1.1 Review of recent and prospective trends, policies and problems affecting intraregional trade, including financing and compensation trade (1)

Programme activity 06(B).2: The development and transparency of market information, marketing and financing techniques and improved business contacts

Programme elements

06(B).2.1 Information relevant to the promotion of trade and industrial cooperation (5)

06(B).2.2 Business opportunities and the promotion and diversification of intraregional trade (4)

Programme activity 06(B).3: Promotion of trade through investment and industrial cooperation

Programme elements

06(B).3.1 Review of recent and prospective trends and policies affecting foreign investment, joint ventures and other forms of industrial cooperation and consideration of means for creating favourable conditions for foreign investment and industrial cooperation (2)

Programme activity 06(B).4: Trade problems of the member countries of the ECE which are developing from the economic point of view

Programme elements

06(B).4.1 Review of trade problems specific to these member countries and consideration of action regarding identified problems and measures to improve their trade promotion efforts (3)

SUB-PROGRAMME 07 - ENERGY *

Authority: Programme of work approved by the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy at their seventh session (ECE/ENERGY/15, paras. 19-23 and Annex)

Programme activity 07.1: Energy programmes, policies and prospects

Programme elements

07.1.1 National energy programmes, policies and prospects
07.1.2 Overview of energy activities in ECE

Programme activity 07.2: Interface between energy and the environment, in particular sustainable development

Programme elements

07.2.1 Interface between energy and environment: sustainable development
07.2.2 Techniques for the evaluation of alternative instruments in the light of environmentally-sustainable developments

Programme activity 07.3: Energy demand and supply

Programme elements

07.3.1 Significant new developments affecting energy demand and supply in the short and medium run
07.3.2 New and renewable sources of energy
07.3.3 End-use demand

Programme activity 07.4: Energy trade and cooperation

Programme elements

07.4.1 Market adaptation of energy-intensive industries in central and eastern Europe
07.4.2 Energy trade in the ECE region in the world-wide context

Programme activity 07.5 Energy conservation and efficiency

Programme elements

07.5.1 Energy conservation developments, policies and prospects in the region
07.5.2 Energy efficiency 2000
07.5.3 Energy efficiency standards
07.5.4 Specific measures

Programme activity 07.6: General energy statistics

Programme elements

07.6.1 Annual Bulletin of Energy Statistics for Europe
07.6.2 Comprehensive ECE energy demand/supply balances for past and future years, and ECE energy data bank

*/ Note: A consolidated programme of work covering the Energy sub-programme as a whole will be submitted to the Committee on Energy at its first session in November 1991, reflecting also the programmes of former Principal Subsidiary Bodies in the energy sector appearing on the following three pages.

COAL

Authority: Programme of work of the former Coal Committee, approved by the Committee at its eighty-sixth session (ECE/COAL/121, paras. 73-81 and Annex 1).

Programme activity 04.1: Medium and long-term prospects

Programme elements

04.1.1 Prospects for the coal industry in the ECE region
04.1.2 World coal trade up to the year 2010

Programme activity 04.2: Current developments, including international coal trade and statistics

Programme elements

04.2.1 Review of short-term fluctuations in the demand for and supply of solid fuels
04.2.2 Examination of draught survey techniques and equipment specification for determining the weight of bulk coal cargoes
04.2.3 Impact of the economic reforms in eastern and central Europe on institutions and practices in international coal trade
04.2.4 Monitoring of the application of the International Codification System for Medium- and High-rank Coals

Programme activity 04.3: Selected technical and economic issues of underground coal mining

Programme elements

04.3.1 Technical progress in underground mining processes
04.3.2 Economic and organizational issues of underground mining
04.3.3 Measures to improve mine safety in underground extraction of coal
04.3.4 Development of more efficient mining systems

Programme activity 04.4: Selected technical and economic issues of opencast coal mining

Programme elements

04.4.1 Technical progress in opencast mining processes
04.4.2 Economic and organizational issues of opencast mining
04.4.3 Environmental aspects of opencast mining

Programme activity 04.5: Coal research and development issues

Programme elements

04.5.1 Review of the activities of national mining research institutes
04.5.2 Introduction of computers for process control and data processing in mines
04.5.3 Problems of coal extraction at great depth

Programme activity 04.6: Coal preparation and utilization

Programme elements

04.6.1 New coal utilization technologies
04.6.2 Utilization of low-calorific-value fuels
04.6.3 Preparation of a new international classification of coals
04.6.4 Elaboration of a specification of minestone which may be used for civil engineering works
04.6.5 Promotion of wider use of coal in industry and other sectors

ELECTRIC POWER

Authority: Programme of work approved by the Working Party on Electric Power at its first session (ENERGY/WP.2/1, para. 17 and Annex II)

Programme activity 06.1: The implication of economic reforms in central and eastern Europe on electric power demand, supply and cooperation

Programme elements

06.1.1	Possibilities of refurbishing fossil-fired power stations, taking into account environmental requirements
06.1.2	European interconnection studies and exercises
06.1.3	Round table on the development of electric power systems and public acceptance

Programme activity 06.2: Environmental aspects in electric power

Programme elements

06.2.1	An environmental appraisal of combined cycle power plants
06.2.2	Cost-benefit analysis and strategies of pollutant emissions in thermal power stations. Case studies, policies and criteria
06.2.3	Programmes for the development of environmentally-friendly coal-fired power stations
06.2.4	Progress in the application of formal environmental impact analysis
06.2.5	Radioactive elements in ash and environmental implications
06.2.6	Implication of climate change for electricity supply
06.2.7	Perception of environmental impact by overhead power lines

Programme activity 06.3: Sustainable development and energy efficiency

Programme elements

06.3.1	Combined production of electric power and heat
06.3.2	Policy to support demand-side management

Programme activity 06.4: Electric power developments, policies and statistics

Programme elements

06.4.1	Electric power situation, prospects and policies in the ECE region
06.4.2	Interconnection of networks in Europe
06.4.3	Coordination of exchange of maps of high-voltage electric power networks

GAS *

Authority: Programme of work approved by the Working Party on Gas at its first session (ENERGY/WP.2/1, para.17 and Annex 1)

Programme activity 07.1: Economic reforms and restructuring in eastern and central Europe - their implications and significance on gas markets and the gas industry in the ECE region

Programme elements
07.1.1 Gas pricing principles and tariff design, including market adaptation (1)

Programme activity 07.2: Developments in the gas industry, including trade and interconnections/extensions of gas networks

Programme elements
07.2.1 Future role of gas (natural gas and LPG) in meeting energy requirements (1)
07.2.2 Developments in gas availabilities and consumption (2)
07.2.3 Gas trade (3)
07.2.4 Interconnections and extension of gas networks in Europe (4)
07.2.5 Assessment of natural gas resources, including geological and geophysical methods of prospecting for natural gas (6)
07.2.6 Construction, management and maintenance of gas transport systems (5)
07.2.7 Underground gas storage (8)
07.2.8 Large-scale storage of LPG (7)

Programme activity 07.3: Gas industry and the environment, including climate change and sustainable development

Programme elements
07.3.1 Developments in the gas industry to reduce repercussions on the environment in the end-use of natural gas and LPG (1)
07.3.2 Environmental problems associated with the exploration, production and processing of natural gas for pipeline transport (3)
07.3.3 Interrelationship between gas and climate change (2)
07.3.4 Safety and environmental measures affecting underground gas storage (5)
07.3.5 Methane emissions (4)

Programme activity 07.4: Rational use of gas, including conservation and efficiency measures

Programme elements
07.4.1 Gas saving and rational use (1)
07.4.2 Impact of new technology on the use of gas, where it has a premium value for a particular process (2)
07.4.3 Use of gaseous fuels in motor vehicles (3)
07.4.4 New developments in gas distribution systems and operational practices (5)
07.4.5 Use of computers in the gas industry (4)

* Note: The Working Party on Gas rank-ordered the programme elements within each programme activity.

SUB-PROGRAMME 08 - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, approved by the Senior Advisers at their eighteenth session (ECE/SC.TECH/39, paras. 49-51 and Annex 1).

Programme activity 08.1: Medium- and long-term perspectives in science and technology

Programme elements

08.1.1 Science and technology trends in the region and in selected sectors

Programme activity 08.2: Current developments in science and technology policies

Programme elements

08.2.1 Review of changes in national policies, priorities and institutions, and international cooperation
08.2.2 R and D policies and economies in transition

Programme activity 08.3: Selected issues in science and technology

Programme elements

08.3.1 Inventory of existing safety guidelines in biotechnology
08.3.2 Prediction of earthquakes

SUB-PROGRAMME 09 - TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TOURISM

Authority: Programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee, approved by the Committee at its fifty-third session (ECE/TRANS/85, paras. 162-165 and Add.1)

Programme activity 09.1: Transport perspectives
Programme elements
09.1.1 Review of general trends with regard to transport development and transport policy (A)
09.1.2 Analysis of specific transport economic issues (B)
09.1.3 Development of transport in the Mediterranean Region (C)

Programme activity 09.2: Transport infrastructure
Programme elements
09.2.1 Road transport infrastructure (A)
09.2.2 Rail transport infrastructure (A)
09.2.3 Inland waterway infrastructure (B)
09.2.4 Linking of the European transport network to that of other regions (C)

Programme activity 09.3: Transport vehicles and vessels
Programme elements
09.3.1 Harmonization and improvement of regulations and recommendations for road vehicles (A)
09.3.2 Arrangements for the elimination of technical barriers to international trade of motor vehicles and their equipment and parts (A)
09.3.3 Harmonization and improvement of standards for inland navigation vessels (B)

Programme activity 09.4: Transport operations and facilitation
Programme elements
09.4.1 Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operations (B)
09.4.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international railway transport and facilitation of its operations (B)
09.4.3 Harmonization of requirements concerning international inland waterway transport and facilitation of its operations, including the study of legal provisions (B)
09.4.4 Harmonization of requirements concerning more than one mode of transport (B)
09.4.5 Promotion of combined and multimodal transport (B)
09.4.6 Harmonization of regulations and standards relating to the international transport of perishable foodstuffs and facilitation of its operations (B)

Programme activity 09.5: Transport safety
Programme elements
09.5.1 Road transport safety (A)
09.5.2 Inland water transport safety (A)
09.5.3 Safety requirements for the construction, maintenance and handling of containers and piggyback transport equipment (B)

Programme activity 09.6: Transport of dangerous goods
Programme elements
09.6.1 Establishment and updating of general rules for the transport of dangerous goods within the framework of the Economic and Social Council's Committee of Experts (A)
09.6.2 Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods by road, rail, inland waterways and combined transport (A)

Programme activity 09.7: Transport aspects of energy saving and environmental protection

Programme elements

09.7.1 Promotion of economy and efficiency in transport (B)

09.7.2 Impact of transport infrastructure and operations on the environment including pollution and noise (A)

Programme activity 09.8: Transport statistics and information

Programme elements

09.8.1 Development of internationally comparable and agreed standards including methods of collection and definitions, concerning inland transport and road traffic accident statistics (B)

09.8.2 Publication of the Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe (C)

09.8.3 Publication of Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe (C)

09.8.4 Publication of the results of the road traffic censuses (C)

09.8.5 Periodical circulation of selected transport information (C)

09.8.6 Harmonization of transport statistics in Europe (C)

09.8.7 Publication of an annual bulletin on transport in Europe (C)

Programme activity 09.9: Facilitation of movement and transport of disabled persons

Programme elements

09.9.1 Road transport aspects (C)

09.9.2 Rail transport aspects (C)

09.9.3 Inland water transport aspects (C)

SUB-PROGRAMME 10 - STATISTICS

Authority: Programme of work of the Conference of European Statisticians, approved by the Conference at its thirty-eighth session (ECE/CES/36, paras. 47-77 and Annex 1).

Programme activity 10.1: Organization and operation of statistical services

Programme elements

10.1.1 Issues of statistical policy
10.1.2 Adaptation of statistical services to transition and integration processes in Europe
10.1.3 Promotion of the coordination of international statistical work in the ECE region

Programme activity 10.2: Statistical information technology

Programme elements

10.2.1 Use of Electronic Data Processing for statistical purposes
10.2.2 Statistical Computing Programme (SCP)
10.2.3 Design and development of statistical databases

Programme activity 10.3: Economic statistics

Programme elements

10.3.1 Development of national accounts
10.3.2 Foreign trade statistics
10.3.3 Indicators of short-term economic and technical change
10.3.4 Manufacturing statistics
10.3.5 Agriculture and forest statistics
10.3.6 Statistics of services
10.3.7 Transport statistics
10.3.8 Statistics of household income
10.3.9 Price and quantity statistics
10.3.10 International comparisons
10.3.11 Application of international standard classifications in national economic statistics
10.3.12 Business registers in national statistical offices
10.3.13 Methodological issues in the collection, processing, dissemination and analysis of economic statistics

Programme activity 10.4: Social and demographic statistics

Programme elements

10.4.1 Coordination of social and demographic statistics
10.4.2 Methodological issues in the collection, processing, dissemination and analysis of social and demographic statistics
10.4.3 Registers for social and demographic statistics in national statistical offices
10.4.4 Application of international standard classifications in national social and demographic statistics
10.4.5 Labour force statistics
10.4.6 Migration statistics
10.4.7 Population and housing censuses
10.4.8 Statistics on the role and situation of women
10.4.9 Human settlements statistics
10.4.10 Demographic projections
10.4.11 Fertility surveys

Programme activity 10.5: Natural resource and environment statistics

Programme elements

10.5.1 Energy statistics
10.5.2 Development of concepts, definitions and classifications in individual areas of environment statistics
10.5.3 Development of an international environmental data service
10.5.4 Methodological problems of environment statistics
10.5.5 Frameworks for environment statistics

Programme activity 10.6: Support for ECE publications, studies and projects

Programme elements

10.6.1 Publication of statistical bulletins
10.6.2 Support for the statistical work of other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies
10.6.3 Provision of statistical information for ECE studies and projects
10.6.4 Substantive support for statistical activities financially supported by UNDP

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